

LANDSLIP IN SIROHORE—A large landslip has occurred on the side of the River Severn, at Sirohore, near the mouth of the river. The river at this point has recently given way, falling towards the river, and carrying with it the Severn Valley Railway, which runs through the hill. Within a short period the railway has been carried down the slip to the extent of five yards, thereby necessitating continual attention and expense on the part of the Great Western Railway Company in keeping up the level. The slip has now assumed a serious aspect, and at one point, near Jackfield, the river is so narrowed by fall of earth as to be scarcely navigable. The fall continues daily, and is placing in jeopardy the building upon the hill. It is believed that the cause of the slip is a strong easterly gale at the foot of the hill and near the bed of the river. The force of the current of the river washes away, thus bringing down the hill. The slip is 100 yards in breadth, and upon the land affected there is a church, as well as other large buildings.

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THE EGYPTIAN PROBLEM.

As the readiest means of putting down the present insubordinate army of Egypt, it has been suggested, that Turkey should send soldiers to Egypt. It is impossible to say that circumstances might not arise in which the employment of Turkish troops might be the least of many evils. But it would be a very great evil in itself. To get the Turks into Egypt would be easy enough, but to get them out would be very difficult indeed. They would take care not to do their work too quickly or too well. There would always be some danger from the disbanded army, against which they would have to take precautions equally indispensable and expensive. If it was proposed to replace them, they would ask how they could be replaced when an Egyptian army could not be trusted and no European Power would intervene except on paper. They would naturally ask that the province they were saving should pay them for their trouble, and they would get what they asked by the simple process of taking it. They would probably be too proud to take more than they could take without coming to an open quarrel with the Powers that had invited them to come in; but their plea that Egypt must pay for being saved would, if urged within decent limits, be so irresistible that they would easily take enough to disorganize Egyptian finance and arrest the progress which Egypt has recently made. That the Arabs would reflect that this was a most disappointing end of French intervention, and that Mr. Gladstone's Government would give the most curious of whitewashings to the Turks by putting under their unseemable pashas and generals a province hitherto free from them, may perhaps be dismissed as mere matters of local or personal sentiment. As an alternative process it has been suggested that Egypt should be proclaimed an independent country with the guarantee of England. There is no difference between this and the older plan of English occupation or annexation, except that it has the merit or demerit of a very thin veil of hypocrisy. Egypt is now dependent in three ways. It is under the suzerainty of the Porte, it has its finances controlled by foreigners, and it is bound to administer justice to foreigners in a peculiar way, which foreigners find convenient to them. As regards foreigners, England must guarantee that independent Egypt should offer them all the advantages offered by dependent Egypt. She would have to take care that the new Egypt did not take the old one. She would have to see that the proper taxes were properly collected, and that every possible check was applied to prevent corruption and negligence. She would have to ensure that the International Tribunals gave no judgments that were not punctually carried out. In order to do all this she would have to make the independent Government do exactly what England thought right, and the independent Government could only be kept from going wrong by the constant display of the constant menace of English force. If Europe did not know previously, it has learnt from the recent history of Tunis, what is the inevitable end of this sort of mock independence; and, if we are to do a strong thing, we may at least ask to be spared the humiliation of having to stoop to the subterfuges of M. St. Hilaire. As regards the Porte, it is supposed that we are to inform it that its suzerainty is at an end, with the sole justification that our Indian interests make us think this necessary. We presume that what was sauce for us would be sauce for our neighbours, and that there would be no objection to France informing the Porte that its Algerian interests required that the suzerainty of the Porte over Tripoli should be a thing of the past. Other nations would find that their interests required that they should have something else, and the great process of partitioning Turkey would be set on foot; and this time it would be England, of all nations, that would have had the honour of beginning it.—*Saturday Review.*

The darkest cloud in the political horizon, the *Spectator* asserts, is the condition of Egypt. The military movement has been stopped for the moment, its promoters being alarmed at the outbreak of Western feeling, but the general position has become rather worse than better. The National party in Egypt is savage with disappointment. All well-informed writers now admit, what we affirmed from the first, that the movement was not directed against the Khedive—who, indeed, as we believe, secretly favours it—but against "the control,"—that is, against the attempt of England and France to govern Egypt and plunder her Treasury, without securing any of the great ends of government. The army, though no doubt interested in litigation, only expressed a feeling common to all men in Egypt, except the few local bondholders and the few hundreds of Europeans paid at extravagant rates to "control" everything in the country in which the financiers of London and Paris are peculiarly interested. The Egyptians of the upper class, who are about to be organised as "the Notables," are enraged to see every profitable office filled by disagreeable strangers, who do not understand how severely their rigid system presses, but who insist not only on having the pound of flesh, but insist on having it before sunset of settlement day, and who cannot be conciliated even by bribes. The soldiers are indignant at finding that while they have become of little account, they are no better paid than before, and quite as hardly treated; and the people, more especially the urban populace, are savage at the ascendancy of Infidels, who do not even profess to govern. The whole country is impatient of "the control," and another movement against it, whether led by the Army, or the Devises, or the nob, or, as will probably happen, by the "Notables," who are the Khedive's nominees, is within a very short time a certainty.

THE BOERS AND THE CONVENTION.

The *Times* says:—A conditional ratification with the Boers will not be tolerated by Great Britain. One of the speeches with the Triumvirate opened the Volksraad spoke of trusting "to the generosity of the British nation" to make modifications in the Convention. That is,

indeed, the only attitude upon the part of the Boers which could hope to meet with any response in the form of concession. If we omit or relax any provisions we shall do so of grace. For the burghers to take on their acceptance any conditions will be to rouse a spirit of impatience in England. The Convention represents the utmost limit of concession which, after patient deliberation, our Commissioners thought fit to give, and the Boer leaders expressed themselves satisfied to receive. To find that the conditions were not settled after all, that the whole affair must be reopened, and if they became wiser, negotiation begun over again, would be an intolerable mortification to crown an inglorious business. In default of Boer acquiescence in the terms of the Convention, a war to enforce the Convention would be entered into on an easy conscience. Our forbearance towards the Boers has reached its utmost bounds. But from the main principles of the Convention, those which protect substantial British and native interests, and those which affirm British supremacy, there must be no drawing back.

The *Spectator* says:—If the Convention were rejected, the Queen's authority would be revived, and the only course would be to hold the country in her Majesty's name, leaving it to the Boers to rebel, or if they became wiser, to call a new session, and confirm the action of their delegates. The 7,000 farmers who claim a territory as large as France, and deny all rights to its inhabitants, have an absurd amount of sympathy in England; but it would vanish with the rejection of an agreement which concedes to them everything for which they rose in arms, and grants them every right of self-government except that of re-establishing slavery. The matter is so difficult, that it must be left to the Executive Government, but most Englishmen feel that quite enough has been done in the way of concession.

The *Saturday Review* says:—The account of the deliberations of the Transvaal Volksraad is ominous of trouble. Even the most zealous party politicians in England would be startled by another step backwards. The Boers may probably assume that they are in any contingency secure against the renewal of the war. They perhaps overrate, not the firmness of the present Government, but the endurance of the English nation. Since the arrival of the recent news no Liberal writer has ventured to recommend abject submission.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Lord Spencer, the *Economist* thinks, in his address to the Northamptonshire farmers, took a sanguine view of the future of English agriculture. Lord Spencer's hopefulness is based partly upon what may be expected from the adoption of better agricultural methods. He told the farmers, that like everybody else engaged in business, they must expect and prepare themselves to meet competition, and that they would not be able to compete successfully unless they had the best style of cultivation and did everything in the best way. Lord Spencer acknowledges that the present law fails to attract to the soil the capital which must be put into it before the soil can be made to produce. After dismissing protective duties upon corn and the exclusion of foreign cattle as impracticable remedies, he went on to say that "what they did want was to give every possible encouragement to tenant farmers to carry on to the last possible moment their work of improvement, and when they did improve their farms they should be liberally and justly repaid by their landlords." And he intimated that Parliament would soon be called upon to legislate with this object. It is gratifying to hear from the lips of a Cabinet Minister, who is himself a large landowner, so clear a recognition both of the urgent need for a change in the law and of the true principle upon which the tenant's demand for greater security rests. It is important that the English farmer's claim to tenant-right, compensation for improvements, should be put upon its proper footing, and the more so, as there are evidences, in the agitation which is at present going on, of a tendency to support by misleading analogies the demand for the very dissimilar agrarian system of Ireland. The claim of the outgoing tenant of a farm to compensation for the unexhausted value of his improvement differs only in the difficulty of ascertaining the precise sum due from the claim of a commercial tenant to have his trade fixtures which he has put up removed or taken at a valuation at the expiration of his lease. From another point of view it may be compared to a retiring partner's right to have an account taken of his share in the assets of the concern.

BURGLARS AND FIREARMS.

The *Spectator* suggests that if it were made part of the punishment for burglary that a man convicted of it should for a long course of years be obliged to report himself at fixed intervals to the police, and that his dwelling should be open to their visits without notice, this penalty alone might exert a deterrent effect of some force on the commission of the crime. No doubt he would plead, and sometimes plead with justice, that his peculiar relations with the police make it difficult for him to get or keep employment. But then, the knowledge of this difficulty would be a powerful dissuasive from the commission of crime which would bring a man into these relations with the police. A man subjected to close police surveillance for simple burglary would not find it easy to add murder to a second burglary without being at once suspected. Of course, he would be at liberty to commit murder on the occasion of his first burglary, but the inducement to this might be lessened by making the punishment for a burglary in which firearms had been used more severe than the punishment for a burglary in which they had not been carried. Suppose, for example, that the man at whose death the policeman at Kingston-hill met his end had known that if they were caught, and if revolvers were found upon them, or found under any circumstances which left no reasonable doubt that they had only been thrown away when capture was imminent, they would have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, he would probably have thought it better to have left their revolvers at home. While it is desirable, no doubt, to put a stop to burglary in any form, it is especially desirable to put a stop to it in the form in which it is associated with murder. In order to do this, it is not enough to punish for the murder when committed. The possession of the weapons which suggest and lead to murder must be visited with penalties so heavy as to make the risk of being found with them greater than any possible advantage that the possession of them can confer. If a long term of penal servitude for "lurking with intent and with firearms" were the penalty, the advantage of carrying a revolver would be very much lessened. As a burglar is not likely to encounter himself with firearms which he does not mean to use, there would be no ground for fear that we were punishing a light offence with undue severity.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS.

The *Statist* thinks the trade of the country has steadily improved during the year. In the earlier months there was some falling off, partly apparent because a comparison was made with months in which there had been a great increase of business

a year ago; but partly also real, the severe weather of the early part of the year causing a great interruption of every description of business; but since April trade has steadily picked up, and every month has not only seen an improvement as compared with the same time last year, but an improvement upon the preceding month.

The increase of business during September has in fact been at a greater rate than the increase of business during any preceding month of the year. This last fact is especially apparent from a consideration of the weekly traffic returns. The average weekly increase in September over the corresponding weeks of last year on the principal lines is about 246,000, or at the rate of 22,400,000 per annum, which would be almost as great an increase as the remarkable increase of 1880 over the previous year. The increase in the first half of the present year was only about half the rate of increase which is now going on. Other facts have also come to confirm this great and progressive improvement. During the month there has been a very sharp rise in pig-iron, partly occasioned by the agreement of the Glasgow and Midlothian ironmasters to reduce their output by 12½ per cent. for six months; but being also due in a very great measure to the general circumstances of the iron trade, and to a steady increase of consumption for a long time past. Other metals have also advanced in price during the month, while the reports of different "corners"—from the great cotton "corner" in Liverpool, which has made so much noise, to "corner" in iron, and "corner" in wheat, which are also talked of—are all more or less significant of a great movement in business having set in. The harvest weather has also become more favourable, and it may be considered that in reality the present year is at least an average one—much better than could have been expected from some of the accounts which were current six weeks ago. In every way, then, the prospect of the moment seems to be very good for trade.

THE ORIGIN OF THE TUNIS EXPEDITION.

The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says:—In Beaumarchais' *chef d'œuvre* Don Basilio formulates a precept which has been very abundantly acted upon of late years—"Gatomines, gatomines; il en restera toujours quelque chose." The lampoons of M. Rochefort and the more circumspect libels of other papers, have shown once and over again that the precept is only fling plenty of mud some of it will stick. There is a general outcry for an inquiry into the circumstances attendant upon the birth and parentage of the Tunisian Expedition, with a view to ascertain what foundation there may be for the preposterous charges brought against some of the leading men of France that they got up the expedition to Tunis simply to realise a handsome profit on the Bourse by a transaction in Tunisian Bonds. As the whole case will be made for the Tunisian Expedition, investigation in a criminal court, and the exclusion of foreign cattle as impracticable remedies, he went on to say that "what they did want was to give every possible encouragement to tenant farmers to carry on to the last possible moment their work of improvement, and when they did improve their farms they should be liberally and justly repaid by their landlords." And he intimated that Parliament would soon be called upon to legislate with this object. It is gratifying to hear from the lips of a Cabinet Minister, who is himself a large landowner, so clear a recognition both of the urgent need for a change in the law and of the true principle upon which the tenant's demand for greater security rests. It is important that the English farmer's claim to tenant-right, compensation for improvements, should be put upon its proper footing, and the more so, as there are evidences, in the agitation which is at present going on, of a tendency to support by misleading analogies the demand for the very dissimilar agrarian system of Ireland. The claim of the outgoing tenant of a farm to compensation for the unexhausted value of his improvement differs only in the difficulty of ascertaining the precise sum due from the claim of a commercial tenant to have his trade fixtures which he has put up removed or taken at a valuation at the expiration of his lease. From another point of view it may be compared to a retiring partner's right to have an account taken of his share in the assets of the concern.

A formal, distinct, explicit accusation has been brought against M. Gambetta and M. Challemel-Lacour, that they conspired with M. Roustan to use the Tunisian Expedition as a means of getting up the Tunisian Stock in order to buy it up at discount, well knowing that the Tunisian Expedition and the Treaty of Kassar Said would make France responsible for the Tunisian debt, and bring up the bonds to a premium, which would enable all who purchased the bonds when they were at their lowest to realise an enormous profit. The Radical papers, the *Intransigent*, the *Lanterne*, and the *Petit Parisien*, asserted, as a basis for their attack, that the Bey of Tunis was anxious to conclude a treaty with France before the Kroumir Expedition; secondly, that the President of the Republic, M. Grévy, had telegraphed to the Bey to send plenipotentiaries to Paris in order to negotiate a treaty; thirdly, that despatch had been suppressed by politicians who were determined on bringing about a war in order to facilitate their stock-jobbing transactions; and that M. Roustan had acted in the matter of the French plenipotentiaries as a financial broker; fifthly, that certain well-known politicians had taken a leading share in these unsavoury machinations; and, sixthly, that the Tunisian business was a repetition of the case of the Jekker Bond job, which was one of the causes of the French Expedition to Mexico. Other papers, among them the *Clairon*, which, if its allegations are as false as it is to be hoped they are, ought to be prosecuted as well as the *Intransigent*, the *Revue*, and the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, the *Clairon* said that a syndicate had been formed which, having before the war bought up Tunisian Bonds at 225 francs, had sold them after the treaty of Kassar Said at 475 francs. It added:—"We are in a position to specify the excellent patriots who got up this coup de Bourse. It is not known how it happened that *ces Messieurs* acquired the Tunisian Bonds at such a low price, and would end in a treaty placing Tunisian finances under the guarantee of France. The fact is that they all simultaneously made mere chance of the French Expedition, and by buying up all the Tunisian Bonds they could lay their hands on as soon as the treaty was concluded. The boys who were being guzzled by France, naturally rose in price, and the patriotic, pocketed the difference. In this coup de Bourse the following persons participated:—1. A well-known Paris paper; 2. A millionaire who directs an Opportunist paper; 3. A millionaire whose money has won him his seat; 4. The director of a credit bank; 5. A millionaire who has intimate business relations with the director aforesaid."

The accusations may be, I believe, all unfounded; they certainly are so as I shall presently show, in so far as the persons attacked are accused of getting up the war; but they are precise, and their incessant repetition has unquestionably created a great sensation amongst the public at large, and that sensation such a thorough and searching investigation has become inevitable. As to the origin of the war, the causes are thoroughly well known in diplomatic circles. In 1873, at Berlin, when M. Waddington, then French Minister at Berlin, had just returned from his mission to the Emperor of the British Government would not object to the French taking Tunis, had the opportunity been effected it would have taken place without rousing any of the opposition which it excited last spring, and especially in England, where it was aware of what had taken place in Berlin, and showed great objection to it, and what induced France to select that particular time was the fact that Italy, being paralysed by her financial condition, which made her, in a great measure, dependent on France for the resumption of specie payments, the opportunity was regarded as a favourable one. The French Government could not but be aware that Italy had shown a nasty feeling on the subject, and as his wife was sane, and that her letters are suppressed by Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, Philip has taken his mother out of the asylum, and brought her as the Half-Way House, or her way home. A misunderstanding on the part of Obadias Dell, the broker's man, causes a good deal of rather meaningless confusion, the result of which is that Philip induces her to conceal his mother in her room, and to turn out a more favourable opportunity for carrying out his plan. No one can be very interested in this poor ill-used lady

whose concealment is effected amidst such roars of laughter; but in the further development of the plot during the second act her presence plays an important part. For the sake of keeping her secret, Mr. Hope compromises her own reputation in the eyes of her father, allowing it to be understood that it is she whom Philip has visited late at night at the Half-Way House. The complication, however, is clumsily managed, and it is distinctly to be regretted that the commencement of the third and last act. Moreover, little seems practically to come of it beyond what must have occurred whenever the unsuitable engagement between the young people was announced. The study of the scene is very angry with his daughter for having kept her secret from him, and is furious with Hesselstine for objecting to the match. The hiding-place of Mrs. Hesselstine, it is true, kept secret; but this is not a fact of any vital consequence, inasmuch as her sanity must be capable of proof, and her husband, unless he be a cruel villain, cannot turn her from his door. The odd thing about Squire Hesselstine is that he is likely to prepare for a scandal, though he must have conceived at his sister's heartless treatment of his wife. What manner of man he is intended to represent it is indeed not easy to determine from the speeches placed in his mouth; neither does his representative, Mr. Farran, throw much light upon the puzzle. As a country gentleman he is presumably prejudiced in favour of birth and breeding—indeed, he says as much when he is told that his son means to marry a shopkeeper's pretty daughter. Yet, on the smallest provocation, he has become quite familiar with the shopkeeper himself, has asked him up to the Hall, and has made him his equal. A vain man of proud bearing, he is, nevertheless, not averse to hold his ancestors up to ridicule in conversation with his inferiors. One knows not what to make of him, except that he is the medium or the butt for the telling quips and cranks of dialogue which Mr. Sims distributes impartially amongst his characters. At this splendid singing elicited enthusiastic applause, and demands for a repetition of the last verse. This artist can hardly fail to prove a valuable addition to the strength of the company.

SIR CHARLES DILKE, M.P., AND THE FRENCH TREATY.

The following letter has been addressed to Sir Charles Dilke by Mr. J. M. Hyde, one of the right hon. gentlemen's constituents:—77, Cambridge-gardens, Kensington, W. Sir,—As an elector resident in the borough of Chelsea, I beg respectfully to address you, as a member of Parliament, and as a member of the Government and of the Royal Commission on the French Treaty. I do this in consequence of the public invitation recently given, that "any communication from persons interested in the subject of the French Treaty should be addressed to the Secretary of the Royal Commission."

I desire, Sir, to urge upon your attention the important fact, that the great unfairness of the existing treaty as arranged by Mr. Golden, and to which the people of England have quietly submitted, has at length become so clearly apparent to English producers as to compel popular action.

France has enjoyed for so many years free access to British markets, and has been unwisely and most unjustly permitted, by the statesmen of England to impose excessive and prohibitory duties upon British productions, under the Cobden treaty, without a protest, as to have suggested additional and higher import duties, as shown by the documents recently translated into English. This unfair treatment and want of legislative attention to the producing interests of our country is awakening a powerful feeling in favour of a fair, just, and equal treaty arrangement.

As one of your constituents, I most earnestly beg, and very respectfully submit, that the commercial interests of England should be no longer sacrificed to France, and that the trade between the two countries should be placed on equal and just terms.

It cannot fail to be known to you that the manufacturers in both countries are now placed, as regards material and machinery, on an equal footing, and that the cost of production, the advantages are clearly on the side of France. It becomes, therefore, absolutely imperative to insist upon an equalisation of duties, to admit of fair and honourable competition between the producing classes of both countries.

I desire further to make known to you that the daily increasing organisations in the direction of fair trade, as opposed to the one-sided protectionist system, which is actually more supported by professed Liberals than by their political adversaries; the movement is strictly and honestly national. The Royal Commissioners, in the exercise of the powers conferred upon them, can hardly expect to unfairly favour the labour of their countrymen in continual strife against the hostile tariffs of France.

Permit me, therefore, to respectfully suggest that no treaty arrangement should be sanctioned that does not place the producers of both countries on an equal footing, on equal terms, and that in any case England should be left free to deal with her own colonies in any way that may be considered best to serve the material interests of the Empire.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant.

To the Right Hon. Sir Charles Dilke, M.P.

THE DRAMA.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE. In the absence of Mr. James, but with Mr. Thorne still at his post, the Vaudeville Theatre re-opened on Saturday night with a new piece by the author who lately amused London playgoers by the boisterous humour of his *Crutch* and *Toothpick*, and is now interesting them by the sentimental story of his *Light of London*. Mr. G. R. Sims has, so far as the plot is concerned, done his best work, and if the vigorous applause which greeted *The Half-Way House* may be trusted, his success has not yet deserted him. It is, nevertheless, difficult to trace in Mr. Sims' play any of the qualities which distinguished *Leu de mot* whereby laughter is secured; it would, we fear, be difficult to discover any phase of the plot calculated to arouse serious interest. Like *Our Boys*, the famous success which the name of the Vaudeville is chiefly associated with, *The Half-Way House* is chiefly to our notice a couple of fathers, the one a country gentleman, and the other a London tradesman, with their respective children. John Hope, a West-end florist, has brought his daughter Ivy down to a country inn, the Half-Way House, the host of which, Mr. Beck, is an impetuous friend of his, and is unlikely enough to have a broker's man in possession of his premises. The squire of the village, Mr. Hesselstine, presses for his arrears of rent, and Mr. Beck persuades his friend Hope to plead with his landlord for time and for permission to turn out the "man in possession." Without the knowledge either of John Hope or of Squire Hesselstine, the son of the florist, Mr. Philip Hesselstine, has another difficult matter to settle before he can set about gaining his father's consent to his proposed marriage. He has just contrived the escape of his mother from a lunatic asylum, whether she has been confined after her recovery, at the instigation of his Squire's sister, Mrs. O'Shaughnessy. Philip naturally desires to reinstate his unhappy mother in the place from which she has been ejected by her sister-in-law. As his weak pleasure-loving father will not believe that his wife is sane, and that her letters are suppressed by Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, Philip has taken his mother out of the asylum, and brought her as the Half-Way House, or her way home. A misunderstanding on the part of Obadias Dell, the broker's man, causes a good deal of rather meaningless confusion, the result of which is that Philip induces her to conceal his mother in her room, and to turn out a more favourable opportunity for carrying out his plan. No one can be very interested in this poor ill-used lady

MUSIC.

LYCEUM ITALIAN OPERA.

The autumnal opera season at the Lyceum Theatre closed on Saturday night under favourable auspices. The house was crowded. The performance of *Dinorah* was in almost all respects equal and in some respects better than those which are to be heard at the Italian Opera houses during the season of high prices. The house has undergone many architectural improvements, and has not only been tastefully decorated, but extensively enlarged. Signor Li Caisi, the conductor of the Lyceum Italian Opera, has gathered round him a large and excellent body of orchestral players, headed by Mr. J. T. Curdus, leader of the Royal Italian Opera, whose name is in itself a tower of strength, and with him are associated Mr. Broussil (violinello), Mr. Keppel (flute), and many other distinguished artists too numerous to mention. The chorists appear to have been selected exclusively from the excellent choir of the Royal Italian Opera, carefully trained by Josiah Pittman, who also renders valuable service as organist. The stage manager, Mr. Her Majesty's Opera, has a difficult task to discharge in the preparation of a large number of operas on a stage and in a theatre which have for a long time been denuded of operatic accessories; but he has not only succeeded in his task, but has introduced a more favourable opportunity for carrying out his plan. No one can be very interested in this poor ill-used lady

the stage, with an attention to detail and a general excellence of *mise en scène*, which augured well for the future prospects of the season. Respecting the merits of Meyerbeer's *Dinorah* nothing remains to be said. Written avowedly as a reply to the capricious critics who averred that the composer was unable to achieve success in any but "grand" opera, with spectacular effects, processions, and ballets, it holds its place as one of the most delightful of all pastoral operas in the lyric repertoire. The last night of Saturday night found an accomplished and sympathetic representative in Mlle. Marmon, who was received with the warmth of welcome due to her great merits as a light soprano of the very highest rank. Once more she elicited enthusiastic applause, and secured an encore for the Shadow Song "Ombra leggera," which she sang with faultless accuracy of execution and intonation, combined with piquant and graceful action. In the opening scene of Act I she was apparently nervous, but soon recovered possession of her powers, and sang her part of the Bell Trio delightfully. From this point to the end of the opera she maintained her high reputation, and was rewarded with frequent and well-merited applause. Mlle. Le Brun, as the goatherd, made a successful debut. Her voice is rather of the mezzo-soprano than the contralto quality. She sings and acts well, and the popular "Fandullo cho il coro" was heartily and deservedly applauded. Signor Frappoli's solo singing and acting as Corentino lent special importance to a thankless rôle, and the minor characters were well filled by Mlle. Vinotte, M. Gonnert, and Signor Tesseman. In the important rôle of Host Signor Padella made a successful appearance in this country. He had a high reputation on the Continent, and Saturday night his success surpassed all expectation. He has a rich and resonant baritone voice, and sings in finished style. With the stage appearance of M. Lassalle we do not know any more on the modern operatic stage capable of singing more delightfully the romance in Act 3 "Sei Vendicata assai." Signor Padella had apparently received his powers from the gods, and his splendid singing elicited enthusiastic applause, and demands for a repetition of the last verse. This artist can hardly fail to prove a valuable addition to the strength of the company.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Sir Herbert Osakely, Professor of Music at the University of Edinburgh, to be Composer to her Majesty in Scotland.

Mr. Richard Blagrove met with a lamentable accident on Saturday. He was riding in a hansom cab in the Strand, when the vehicle came in collision with another cab proceeding in an opposite direction. Mr. Blagrove was thrown against the window, and the cab being dashed backward a second time by the force of the collision, Mr. Blagrove's skull was so severely cut that one of the arteries was severed. He was taken to Charing-cross Hospital. The accident will be the cause of profound regret to a large circle of friends, Mr. Blagrove being so well known and highly esteemed as an eminent performer on the concertina, the viola, etc. As a member of a dramatic and other orchestras he has been constantly before the public as a musician for thirty years past.

Mr. A. Gwyllim Crowe, who has so successfully conducted the Promenade Concerts at Covent-garden Theatre, will retain possession during the autumn season, and will produce a *Pantomime* which will be written by Mr. Frank Green. The stage direction will be intrusted to Mr. Richard Mansell.

Madame de Roze has been spending six weeks on the Continent, and has returned to London to take possession of her new residence, Hawththorpe Lodge, Finchley.

"The Cuckoo Polka" (just published), composed by Ernesto, reminds us of a discussion that arose some time ago as to the exact sounds of the cuckoo's notes. Mr. Browning, the poet, has given a very positive opinion about it, and if he is correct then the composer of this polka must be wrong in the opinion that arose some time ago as to the exact sounds of the cuckoo's notes. Mr. Browning, the poet, has given a very positive opinion about it, and if he is correct then the composer of this polka must be wrong in the opinion that arose some time ago as to the exact sounds of the cuckoo's notes. Mr. Browning, the poet, has given a very positive opinion about it, and if he is correct then the composer of this polka must be wrong in the opinion that arose some time ago as to the exact sounds of the cuckoo's notes.

VANITY FAIRINGS.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK.

Henry Fitzalan-Herbert, fifteenth Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Arundel, Surrey, and Norfolk, Baron Fitzalan, Clun, Oswaldstrete and Maltravers, Premier Duke, Hereditary Earl Marshal and Earl of England, stands next to the Blood Royal in dignity. The splendid name and traditions of his house are found on every page of English history for nearly six hundred years, and he who now bears them is a most admirably well-regulated and worthy young man, who may one day play a personal part in the defence of his country other than that of bearing the wand of his inherited office. He is not a genius, and will never be a leader of men; but he is thoroughly honest and good, generous to the poor, and a devoted and conscientious owner of his co-religionists as "our little Duke." Though naturally indolent, he conscientiously works several hours every day in answering letters of business and the charitable appeals to which he is condemned as one of the richest men in the country. He has taken up both in political and religious matters strong and decided views of his own, to which he adheres with much tenacity; and being essentially conservative in his notions, he even seemed to disapprove of the establishment of the Anglican Church in Ireland, and to doubt whether any good could come out of a measure apparently tending to strengthen the Liberal party as much as to emancipate the Roman Catholics. He is, of course, much courted and influenced by priests, yet it was in direct opposition to the wishes of the chiefs of the Roman Catholic party (who would have preferred to see the money spent in other ways) that he built the splendid church at Arundel, which overtops his adjacent castle, as a monument to the memory of his father and a record of his own taste for architecture. He delights in hunting, but cares nothing for shooting; yet he is of a happy and cheerful disposition, and has a ready wit. He is also a steady officer of volunteers, and much liked by all who know him. Withal he is not yet four-and-thirty, he has been married nearly four years to the daughter of Lord Dorrington, and he has one son.

The Green Ribband of the Thistle, conferred on the Duke of Roxburgh. The Premier has now a knighthood of each of the three great national orders at his disposal, as well as the Lord-Lieutenancy of three counties, those of Rutland, Hereford, and Shropshire. Lord Airlie having been a Representative Peer of Scotland, his demise will necessitate an election for that honour. The name of Lord Northbrook has, I hear, been for some time suggested as likely to be selected in case of a vacancy.

I hear from Paris that M. Worth, the great dressmaker, highly approves of the new fashion of wearing British wool fabrics, because he finds that these fabrics lend themselves so readily to the triumph of his art. He only wonders, I am told, that they have been so much neglected of late, and promises marvellous results with them. He is now making British-wool dresses for four of our smartest English ladies, one of whom is naturally Lady Bosville.

The German pastor, Stöcker, who has been so prominent a part in the anti-Semitic movement in Germany, very nearly succeeded in

PARIS, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1881.

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ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

Great-Britain.
LONDON, OCTOBER 2—3, 1881.

THE FRENCH TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

THE TRANSVAAL.

SIR CHARLES DILKE, M.P., AND THE

assets of uncertain value.

The Earl of Northbrook arrived at his official residence at the Admiralty early on Saturday morning from his shooting quarters at Camesky, Kingussie, and in the evening left town for Stratton Park, near Winchester. His lordship will accompany the Lords Com-

CUN-HUNTING.—The horses have pricked up their ears and shown every token of satisfaction on being introduced to their old friends again. Poor Whyte-Melville expressed an opinion that very few horses like jumping, yet there is certainly something or other about the hunting-field that they do like. One would think it must be associated in their recollection with tiring gallops, heavy ploughs, stiff fences, some whip, a little spur, not a

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LONDON, OCTOBER 4-5, 1881.

Telegrams from Egypt and Tunis are of a very disquieting nature. The Sultan has sent a Commission to Egypt, and the Khedive has convoked the Chamber of Notables to deliberate upon the situation. **Events in both countries appear to be moving very rapidly towards a crisis** fraught with serious consequences to the peace of Europe. The demand for the formation of a National Guard in Egypt, and the determined hostility of the Arabs in Tunis, all point in the direction of widespread discontent on the part of the Mussulman population. Whether the Pan-Islamic movement, about which we have heard so much, has any real existence is more than doubtful, but a spirit does certainly prevail among Mussulman populations, if not of antagonism to Christian civilisation in the abstract, at least of disinclination to be swept away or absorbed by it. There are so many rivalries of race and sect in Islam that they preclude any idea of a *Jihad*, or general rising of the Mahometan world, but there are plenty of causes from which serious disturbance is likely to spring, unless determined and concerted action be taken by the European Powers. In Egypt the populace have seen authority derided by an insolent military faction, and have grown accustomed to believe that the interest of Europeans in their country is confined to purely financial operations. In Tunis, Algiers, and Morocco, the strongholds of the oldest and most conservative Arab tribes, the same fierce spirit of clanship and aggression shows itself which animated their forefathers when they left Arabia in the full flush of the first conquests of Islam. In Africa there is, if not a Pan-Islamic, certainly a Pan-Arabic movement, which is not likely to be put down without very drastic measures. The Sultan, it is also reported, is contemplating massing troops in Tripoli to serve as a corps of observation on the frontier. This will give encouragement to the insurgents, and afford an excellent excuse for stepping in and claiming the results of French victory in the name of the suzerainty of the Sultan, and with an appeal to Europe to support the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. The prospect in North Africa generally is not pleasant to contemplate. It is not surprising that a European Concert such as the late Lord Beaconsfield had devised and brought about perhaps might have rendered the present difficulties and dangers impossible. As it is, France has been allowed, almost without remonstrance, to embark on a most difficult and dangerous course; Italy, unable, and naturally unwilling, to make a *casus belli* of what does nevertheless closely affect her interests, is silent; and Germany is only too glad to see that events are tending in a direction which

The Directors of the Crystal Palace have determined on the holding of an International Electrical Exhibition in that building in December next. We believe that the Secretary of the Crystal Palace has spent some time in Paris making the necessary arrangements, and that he has found that the owners of the various systems of electric lighting will gladly seize the opportunity of showing the English public what they can do. The Crystal Palace is the most appropriate spot, and the dark days of December will be the most fitting time for such an Exhibition. The lighting up of the spacious building all through the winter by the various electrical methods will allow of a comparison of them more complete than has been possible in Paris during the long days of summer. The Exhibition, however, will not be confined to this one use of the electric current. Mr. Edison will, we believe, show all his various inventions, and the telephone, the megaphone, the electric pen, as well as the modes of using the current for moving domestic machines will be seen in action. Electricity promises to be the great worker of the world. It has long been our chief message carrier and news bearer; it has practically superseded other systems of silver-plating, and it is fast supplanting all other methods of lighting where large areas are to be illuminated or a powerful and far-reaching beam is required. Another step in its use is to be taken in Mr. D'Oyly Carte's Theatre. This new building is to be lighted by a form of electric incandescence, and yet another by an large number of the English public. Should Mr. Swann's incandescent lights prove successful in regular use in large numbers the lighting of houses by electricity will not be far in the distance. Electricians however look upon lighting as only one of its future uses. It is to be the heating power in the house of the twentieth century, even if not in those of the close of the nineteenth. It is to prove fruit for us in countless years, to move trams without noise or smoke through our streets, to work the screws of packet-boats, which will then no longer be steamers; and even to supplant the locomotive on our railways. Some of these things are very far in the future; but they will probably seem a good deal nearer to most Englishmen when the coming Exhibition has been open for a month than they are at present. The chief difficulty in the way of the domestic use of electricity is now in the supply of the current. The sensitiveness of the light is so great that a flicker is caused by the least tremor in the steam engine or in the dynamo machine. The current is, as it were, spun out of rapidly-revolving magnets. These have to be set in motion by a steam or gas engine, or some form of air or water power, and the slightest variation in the pace at which the magnets revolve, even so slight a shake as is caused by the join in the driving band as it passes over the drum, causes a tremor in the light. The hope of completely obviating this disadvantage is in the employment of accumulators or secondary batteries, like those of the Messrs. Edison and De Meritons. At present the best chance of these seems to be unavailable, chiefly, as we understand, because of the prohibitory price charged by the patentee. A cheap system of electrical storage, could it be introduced, would probably bring the light at once into general use. It would then be possible for the current to be distributed by wires from central stations, to come slowly into the storage reservoir during the whole twenty-four hours, and thus to accumulate ready for use in the time during which the lamps were required. Mr. Edison, indeed, contemplates the steady use of the current all day for domestic purposes, such as running sewing and other machines, and Mr. Lane Fox exhibited some time ago an electrical kettle with which water could be boiled without being done. The value of the Electrical Exhibition at the Crystal Palace will be that all these various schemes, some of which have been brought together and shown for the first time to the English public. Great as will be the interest of such an Exhibition its utility to the inventors on the one hand and to the public on the other will be greater still. —*Daily News*.

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I know very few populous and affluent cities which have been so systematically ignored and maltreated as this ill-famed little town of Marseilles—to be; and, since the substitution of the Brindisi for the Massilian point of departure of the Indian mail, Marseilles has fallen among ordinary British travellers, into even less favourable estimation than of yore. In the days fondly remembered by all good sailors, it was the last port of call before the seailla of "La Malte des Indes," each incoming P. and O. steamer from Alexandria brought a host of British officers, civilians, ladies, and children to the three colossal jetties, where they were met by waiting Indians as was a rule, of the briefest, they contrived to spend a good deal of money during the few hours of their stay. The hotel and restaurant keepers, the cab-drivers, and the tradespeople of the Canabière profited largely of the influx—the lighter of Queen Victoria ; and it is happy that the home-returns, fatigued with the sea voyage, "laid over" at Marseilles for a whole day and night, in order to "repair the tissues," and that, in the course of such a four-days' stoppage, English ladies discovered that in the "maison de la Rue St. Ferréol, bonnets, costumes, lace and embroidery, quite as tasteful and much cheaper than those to be found in the Rue Vivienne or the Chaussée d'Antin, were available ; while English gentlemen became aware how little they could do without a dinner at the Grand Hôtel, where there are some of the largest and most splendid *cafés* to be found in the whole of Europe : that the Grand Théâtre is a sumptuous edifice, wherein such an opera as *L'Africaine* can be given with the fullest lyric, chorographic, and scenic resources ; that the Théâtre des Nations—where just now, the music of the *Michelet Strogoff* to crowded houses—rivals the gigantic theatre of Barcelona in area and magnificence ; that in the Museum of the Palais de Longchamps there is a collection of the finest pictures, and that the collections, including, among works by French masters alone, pictures by Ary Scheffer, Corot, Gerard, Granet, Bouguereau, Mignard ; and, finally, that on the Chemin de la Corniche there are numerous "restaurants à réserve," the term meaning "reservations for the Reserve," and that the *Bouillabaisse*, the traditional Provencal dish called "*Bouillabaisse*" is procurable at prices, now sweetly moderate and now simply extortionate. Marseilles is a city alike for large and small portmanteaux. I friend lately to guide philosopher, and I friend a dinner bill the bill of the *Café de l'Europe*, the *Canabière*—a dinner bill for one person. Not much in the way of gastronomy. A slice of melon, a potage St. Germain, a fish "loup de mer," a "colette de mouton, sauce Béarnaise," a saddle à la Romaine, and a pint of Ernest Derr's "Fruit de Mer." "Nothing can be said to be overcharged," quoth Jago ; "but if Monsieur had ordered the '*diner du jour*,' he would have enjoyed as much, and more, including the '*vin fin*,' for nine francs. I knew nothing about the wine, but Ernest told me that the halcyon times of the Mallo des Indes resulted in the weekly patronage of hundreds of travelling Britons who knew nothing about the "*diner du jour*."

The withdrawal of the Anglo-Indian transit business from Marseilles almost entirely staggering, but not a knock-down blow to the city. The three great hotels were the greatest sufferers, for chief among the things which you cannot by any possibility succeed in persuading the ordinary Frenchman to do is to give up his fish-potage, his *bûche*, and consequently expensive, hotel, either in his own country or abroad. "*Pas si bête*" is his usual reply when he is asked why he has not alighted at the Grand Hôtel. He adds that on *est très bien* at the "*Cheval Blanc*," "*Petit Luxembourg*," "*Petit Cambria*," "*Petit Constantinople*," so many hostelries by the sign of the province concerning which France and Germany so nearly fell to loggerheads in the summer of 1867—it was one of the false starts of the Franco-German war, and I am sorry to pass my comprehension. What does the ordinary Frenchman want with an hotel in which there are ladies' drawing-rooms, reading and smoking rooms? Very little. An *auberge*—a place where one can eat, sleep, and take a glass—requires in the way of smoking, reading, conversation, and conviviality he obtains at the nearest *café*. At a watering-place, *à la bonne heure*, as much company and conversation as you like ; but Marseilles, although on the coast, is no watering-place. It is the cases out of ten the typical Frenchman travels—his annual excursion *aux eaux* excepted—not from inclination but from necessity ; and old Bishop Hall, who wrote his vehement tractate, "*Quo Vadis?*" in the hope of dissuading the English gentlemen of the Elizabethan age from the seductive pleasures of bathing, is amusingly referred in a protest against "tourism" which I lately read in a *feuilleton* by one of the most brilliant of living French essayists. "Why should I expatriate myself every morning from the Café de Madeline to the Café de Foy—when I can travel every evening from the Boulevard des Italiens to the Boulevard Montmartre? Why should I wander over an indefinite number of miles between Lyons and Paris, and find five times the acquaintance for fabulous boogies?" Thus the success of the "clientèle" of La Malle des Indes produced for a season a vacuum agreeable vacuum in the "cassiers of the grand hôtel." The middle-class hotels, however, they recuperated, and at present they may be said to be fairly prosperous. The middle-class hotels are, on the other hand, continuously crowded with commercial travellers and persons taking passage in the steamships, and leave this port for most parts of the world. The Grand Hôtel, in the Rue de Noailles, where I am for the present residing, and which I have "used" these fifteen or sixteen years past, is not by any means full. There are between two and three hundred rooms on the ground and the first floor were kept open for the accommodation of visitors. Imagine the Adelphi or the London and North-Western, or the Washington at Liverpool, shutting up three-fourths of their bedrooms between the beginning of July and the end of September! Yet Marseilles is not, any more than Liverpool, a fashionable watering-place. The city of the Bouches-du-Rhône is, like the city on the Mersey, a vast commercial entrepot, and a bourn at which countless thousands of foreign goods are landed and blank ; but it is the inn of the "*Cheval Blanc*," the "*Hôtel du Commerce*," and the "*Petit Luxembourg*" class—prayer bear in mind that I am speaking generally, and am not particularising in the hotel nomenclature—of the fast machinery of the city. During the winter months the grand hotels do better, being often the boiling-place of families who like easy travelling, and of invalids on the way to Cannes or Nice, or the lovely health resorts of the Riviera. Here there is also, from November to March, a considerable and shady contingent of Britons of a speculative and sporting turn who have thrown down the gauntlet to fortune in the way of backing the red or the black, or the "pair et impair" at roulette, or plucking, and who, having been, with their "money" and "audacity," "*cleaned out*," at that pleasant Inferno, "*wash up*," so to speak, in dire stress for ready cash, at Marseilles. The name of the city has a mercantile and moneyed sound ; and it seems more respectable to write home "*Albergo del Bancherotti*" at Monaco or the "*Hôtel des Grands Dégoûnés*" on the Boulevard de la Condammée.—*Daily Telegraph*.

[illegible]

The *Preston Herald* publishes some particulars of a recent visit paid by the Rev. W. J. Knox-Little, rector of St. Alban's, Manchester, to the Rev. S. F. Green, rector of the Cathedral, to the Rev. S. F. Green, rector of the Cathedral, rector of Miles Platting. It says it is empowered to report these details by the courtesy of Mr. Little. "Englishmen, as a rule," said Mr. Knox-Little, "were apt to think that his was a true friend, Mr. Green, was contending for a certain ideal, for a candle, a stole, or a biretta, whereas the real prize he was fighting for, and which he (Mr. Little) had tried to witness for, was the liberty of the English Church, and, as he also thought, the emancipation principles. He certainly was of opinion that the word of God was an ultramontane or Roman principle to obey a man bishop merely on his *ipse dixit*, to be in perfect servitude by giving oneself to sole obedience to the word of the Bishop. The principle of the Reformation, he had pointed out, again and again, was to free the laity from priests, the priests from the Bishops, and the Bishops from the Pope. There was a distinct freeing all round, and it was demonstrated that the clergy were the servants of the Church, and Christ. In England we had drifted into it if a Bishop ordered a thing the minister had to obey, no matter what it was. Now, when a minister is ordained he takes canonical obedience to his Bishop; or that he will obey him in all things, in accordance with the canons of the Church, obedience compulsory. He knew no other obedience, for both were the servants of the Church. Mr. Green has maintained his vows because he had uncanonically demanded from him uncanonical obedience. He had insisted that that was not ratified by the canons. We were to obey a Court constituted by the Public Worship Regulation Act and Lord Denzance we should be virtually saying that the Church of Christ was not the Church of Christ passed on by succession through the Apostles from our Lord, was ordered, governed, and regulated by Acts of Parliament—that is, was no church at all. He (Mr. Little) would sooner die than obey Lord Denzance. Bishop spoke to him with the power of Pentecost, and in the name of the Holy Ghost, he should recognise at once that he was a Bishop of the Catholic Church, or, if he said, 'According to such a canon I believe you ought to do so and so, and I advise you to do so for the good of the Church,' or 'I advise you to this thing, because he should have great hesitation in disobeying, even if he differed in opinion, although, perhaps, he would be bound to disobey if it was a very serious matter. But when the Bishop said, 'I advise you, thereby not the law of the Church, but the Public Worship Regulation Act, he could not obey, because it was a measure emanating from the realm alone, attacking the mysteries of the Church, and not giving the faithful, and not coming jointly from the Church and realm. Mr. Little remarked, "We can't obey a bishop when he becomes a flunky of the Public Worship Regulation Act; we can't obey a Bishop if the Church is free, and we are contending for the same things, but the freedom of the Church. Therefore, I said to Mr. Green—be brave, continue in your fortitude, stand firm. If you die in prison, die in prison, so that when you come out, you will be able to say to your Lord, 'I was not able to say to you that I committed the mysteries to you, I committed My people's souls to you, and you surrendered the principle of the liberty of the Church which belongs, not to the bishop of the diocese, but to the whole Christian Church, and I have, in a court constituted by Parliament without the authority of My Church, which Parliament consisted of believers, unbelievers, heretics, and Jews.'" I am very sorry to hear that you, Mr. Green, will die in prison, sooner than acknowledge a principle as that." Mr. Knox-Little added that that great statesman the Prime Minister, one of the greatest of mortals, whom he admired more than any living man, spoke for the same against the Public Worship Regulation Act. He made one of the brilliant orations of his many glorious speeches in that great Parliament of rampant Tories against the passing of that Act. Now, Mr. Little continued, although he was not actually stated to have said, "I disapproved of that Act, that it is unconstitutional and contrary to liberty, but as the bishops subscribed to that Parliament let them administer the Act. He (Mr. Gladstone) could not get the Act out of his prison. The bishops were not loyal to the Church, and ought to have borne the responsibility of putting a priest in prison. Speaking of the Public Worship Regulation Act, Mr. Knox-Little said that Act was a specimen of Tory tyranny that was not a law, and no churchman could have anything to do with it, but rather scorned and ignored it."

The Church Congress was opened at Newcastle on Tuesday morning with a procession of the dignitaries of the Church, and with divine worship. At eleven o'clock the bishops with their chaplains, deacons, archdeacons, canons residentiary, masters, and professors of divinity, the dean, the chancellor, and Registrar of the Diocese, the Honorable Canon of Durham, Rural Deane, Clerical Secretaries of Congress, together with clerical readers and speakers, met in the Town Hall, which building was placed at their disposal by the Mayor, and satired themselves in their ecclesiastical robes. The service was then performed to St. Nicholas's Church, where service was held; and as it wended its way to the venerable edifice (destined to be the cathedral of the new diocese of Northumberland), its quaint and old-world appearance constituted a scene which to the thousands of spectators was as impressive as any ever witnessed. Preceded by the Mayor and Corporation, the procession walked through the centre aisle of the church, and was met by the vicar and churchwardens. The Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Durham and Newcastle, the Dean of Durham, and the chancel rails. Only holders of Congress tickets were admitted to the service. The Bishop of Manchester preached the sermon, taking for his text Ephesians iii., 8th and 12th verses, Revised Version. In the course of his sermon, the Bishop of Manchester said that it was his hope that the outer world, when it criticized the Church, would find that congress would have no cause to reverse its verdict of an earlier day, and say, with uncontrolled scorn, "See these Christians, how they hate one another." At least they would do well to be on their guard, and tongues which uttered a bridle should put up with beatings. One thing he said the Deaf and Dumb could they build up a Church which would be truly Catholic and which would embrace the world. In the face of Rochester parodying Christian sacraments, of the International Free-thinkers holding a three days' conference in connection with the Deaf and Dumb congress, organizing a great free-thought demonstration on All Souls' Day, they could not afford to bandy words on disputable points; nor dare they break up a great Church into fragmentary and partisan organizations. Instead of recognizing the sound sense of the battle of the union ever was strength it would be so now.

FAIR TRADE.—A largely-attended meeting of the Sheffield branch of the Fair Trade League was held in the Albert-hall on Tuesday night, under the presidency of the Master Cutler, Mr. J. E. Bingham. There were about 3,000 people in the hall. Sir John

RELEASE OF A "SUSPECT."—Mr. Patrick Moran, of Ballybean, a "suspect" who has been in Galway Gaol for the last five months, has been unconditionally released.

The Messenger

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, OCTOBER 5-6, 1881.

M. GAMBETTA.

The Parisian wits are never tired of amusing themselves at M. Gambetta's expense. Their latest mode of representing him is in the character of the ass of Buridan between his two bundles of hay—casting a longing look now on the chair of the Council of Ministers, and now on the fauteuil of the President of the Chamber. It is perfectly natural that he should hesitate, for, however conscious he may be of his own powers, however well satisfied with the Republican majority, he well knows that the position of a French Minister is one of perpetual difficulty. Place is what tries a political reputation; and in France there are few which survive the trial. How many ex-Premiers does France now count, and what proportion of them have any longer a claim to be considered as politically existing? M. Gambetta is by far the ablest man that the Republic has produced; but the expectations that will be formed of him will be great in proportion, and the enemies that he will have to contend with will be still greater. The mob of Belleville, stirred up by the Révolutions and the Rocheforts, hate him as a mob always hates the favourites whom it believes to have betrayed it; and the latest manifestation of this feeling, the meeting at the Salle Rivoli, where M. Gambetta was solemnly outlawed, shows that the temper of the Irreconcilables is not improving. Impracticable as are their aims, and frantic as is the language in which they make themselves known, these people have to be reckoned with. They are the depositaries of the old revolutionary tradition, and that, as we know, is in France a constant source of danger. With the *Intransigents* on the one hand and the clergy on the other, M. Gambetta's course will not be easy. It may well be that he would have liked better to put off the assumption of power till some period of national crisis, when party differences would all be merged, and when he might appear before the world as the man of the hour. But he is far too cautious to hasten such a crisis. If he takes office now, it will be as a pacific Minister. He has often said, and said sincerely, that the true policy of France is a policy of peace—her best game a waiting game. He probably recognises by this time as clearly as we do that in her North African adventures, so lightly entered upon, so inadequately prepared for, France has been dissipating her strength and damaging her chance of alliances in the pursuit of a shadowy gain. His first object will no doubt be to bring the Tunisian campaign to an end, and to smooth the difficulties which recent events have called into existence all along the Mediterranean shore. Then will follow the measures of domestic reform which were drawn in outline in the Tours and Ménilmontant speeches—possibly the revision of the Senate, certainly the taxing of lands held in mortmain, the further decentralisation of education, the reform of the magistracy, and the re-organisation of finance. There are plenty of hidden rocks in the way, but not too many, let us hope, for the Republic to steer safely through.—Times.

ENGLAND AND THE BOERS.

Bearing in mind the cardinal fact, which the Boers never forget, that the English Government submitted to defeat and negotiated on lost battlefields, the hostility to the Convention manifested at Pretoria becomes almost intelligible. Whatever troubles ensue will be the direct fruit of a policy the motives of which we may respect, because they were generous, the substance of which we must condemn, because it was not in accordance with the laws of fact, and, in the long run, unjust as well as impolitic. England may be great, powerful, and beneficent without the Transvaal, but she, no more than any other State, can disregard with impunity her military honour and the large obligations imposed by a vast inheritance. The quarrel with the Boers is only one part of the South African question, but our behaviour in the dispute cannot fail to exercise a profound influence over the entire region still under the sovereignty of Queen Victoria. From it the colonists will learn whether we are for the connection or not, and the native races will speedily discern how far and to what extent British power is likely to survive. Despite the campaign in Zululand and the settlement with the Basutos, accomplished by the Cape Colony without Imperial help, a stimulus has been imparted to the elements of disturbance by the meek acceptance of defeat on the part of a Power in whose strength they believed. Weakness, or even apparent weakness, is certain to produce a crop of evil consequences which will run on until the balance of forces has been again determined. It is a fond but foolish belief that the "magnanimity" displayed last spring on the borders of Natal will yield no disadvantages. Yet, in the eyes of the whole group of colonies, not less among those who approve, as in those who disapprove, the surrender to the Boers did not wear the aspect of conscious power refraining from the exercise of its might, but was rather accepted as a sign that the statesmen of England were wearied with the obligations of empire, and wished to be rid of responsibilities. The impression is likely to be confirmed by the counsels here and there tendered to the present rulers of England, who are inclined to loosen the ties that bind her to her colonial children. When such notions are proclaimed, the authentic assurance that her Majesty's Government have no intention of abandoning South Africa, which would not have been needed had old traditions been observed, will be enfeebled but not destroyed their pernicious influence. Moved by the strange advice so gaily offered, Mr. Gordon Sprigg, late Premier in the Cape Colony, contrived the unpatriotic counsel, and set forth some pregnant truths which genuine Englishmen may ponder. "I advocate the retention of South Africa," he wrote, "not in the interests of any party or section of the various communities there, but in the

interest of progress and civilisation as opposed to stagnation and barbarism." "If," wrote Mr. Sprigg, "whenever the maintenance of authority in a distant dependency involve extraordinary military expenditure, that dependency is to be abandoned, then we must suppose that the decline and fall of England has commenced." No surer sign of decay could be exhibited; and, although we have not yet openly reached that point, still, the question or doubt could never have arisen had not English statesmen recently betrayed symptoms of lassitude and forgetfulness of the high spirit and lofty principles which animated their forefathers.—Daily Telegraph.

THE LATE SIR JOHN KARS LAKE.

It is with extreme regret that we record the death of Sir John Burgess Karslake. He was a man eminently distinguished, universally esteemed, and—by those who had the fortune to know him—warmly loved. His success at the Bar was something remarkable. There were, it is true, certain advantages in his favour. He was a public-school man, educated at Harrow. He was the son of a solicitor in large practice, and so could, early in his career, command business, and secure a start. He was also a man of imposing personal presence, and when he rose in Court he not only demanded, but compelled attention. In any profession he would have made his mark; at the Bar his success was a certainty. And this, too—above all things—because his honour was unblemished, and Judges and Jurors alike knew that whatever he said, or whatever statement he pledged himself to, might be at once implicitly accepted. He was not an orator, unless the occasion roused him to effort, but both in debate and in argument he was polished and measured. Amongst his friends—and he never made an enemy—it was said that he was not only a gentleman, but that he was the most handsome gentleman in England. "Felix et pulcher et acer; Felix et pulcher et nobilis et generosus." "Nobilitas" he became early in his career, for he was made Solicitor-General when only forty-five years of age. A few months later he was appointed Attorney-General, and it is beyond question that he would have attained the highest honours of the Judicial Bench had not the terrible calamity of blindness suddenly fallen upon him when he was in the zenith of his career. How bravely he bore himself under this cruel blow of fate, those alone can know whose privilege it was to meet him. He had been not only a distinguished advocate, but a man with a strong love of all that is healthy and joyous—a keen yachtsman, a good shot, a bold rider to hounds, a man, in fact, to whom every hour of his life brought either well-earned pleasure or honourable work, and then— with the suddenness of a thunderbolt—there fell on him all the suffering of Samson in his prison-house at Gaza. His heart was broken. There was no doubt, although a fine constitution enabled him to linger heroically on in slow suffering for many long and weary years. "How dull it is to pause; to make an end; to rust unburnished; not to shine in use: As though to breathe were life." It is pitiful indeed to see a great career wrecked by so miserable a spite of fate. For, indeed, apart from his abilities, Sir John Karslake had qualities that deserved success. His manners were those of the grand old school that is now fast passing away. He was frank, conciliatory, and even winning; and, above all, he was charitable in the true sense of the word—always seeking occasion to do good without being discovered in its performance.—Standard.

THE VOLKSRAAD AND THE CONVENTION.

The Standard correspondent at Fort Amiel telegraphs: "On Wednesday:—The Committee appointed by the Volksraad to consider the terms of the Convention have concluded their deliberations. They express their opinion that the Convention is in many respects a breach of the peace agreements made between Sir Evelyn Wood and the Boer leaders. The object to Articles 2 and 18, by the first of which the Queen reserved all control of the external relations of the State, including the conclusion of Treaties and the conduct of diplomatic intercourse with Foreign Powers, and by the latter of which the duties and functions of the British Resident were defined. The Committee of the Volksraad contend that a Suez Canal has no right to control the Foreign relations or internal laws of the State. They also argue that the Resident should not be allowed to become a trustee of property, etc. They also assert that the British Government has put in no proof as to the debt." The Committee would exclude from the Convention, as being offensive, Article 15, which provides for complete freedom of religion and protection for all denominations; Article 16, which reaffirms the provisions of the Fourth Article of the Sand River Convention, and declares that no slavery or apprenticeship pertaining of slavery shall be tolerated by the Government of the State; Article 26, which provides for the rights of all persons other than natives who conform to the laws of the Transvaal; and Article 27, declaring that all inhabitants of the Transvaal shall have free access to the Courts of Justice for the protection and defence of their rights. This explains why, in the recent debate in the Volksraad, each member who spoke declared that the Convention was one which dealt with the Boers, not that they were civilised people, but as though they were a horde of savages.

THE TRAFFIC IN ENGLISH GIRLS.—The reported abduction of girls from England which has lately excited much public attention and solicitude, has undergone a thorough examination by the officers of the Criminal Investigation Department. Their inquiries have been much impeded in several instances by the relatives of the so-called "kidnapped" girls, who, in many instances, are found to have been consenting parties in the immoral traffic. It has been established that many of the Continental houses of ill-fame have agencies in Soho and other parts of London.

THE VOTES OF CATHEDRAL CLERGY.—At a Revision Court held in Chester on Monday, the objection was raised by the Liberals to the votes of several of the cathedral clergy, whose qualification was said to be furnished by their participation in the revenues arising from bequests to the chapter. After some argument, the revising barrister held that the votes of the cathedral clergy were good, but endorsed an objection against four of the major canons, being of opinion that they were not, by virtue of their position with respect to the Cathedral revenues, "sole corporators" within the meaning of the Act. A case for further argument was granted.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A LANDLORD.

A daring attempt was made on Monday night to assassinate a landlord, named Arthur S. Bingham, of Doolough Lodge, near Lough Mayo. When returning home in the evening from the town of Belmullet, in which he had been marketing, he was fired at from the roadside. The bullet missed Mr. Bingham, but passed through the arm of a young girl, who was seated on the car bench by the steepness of the road at the place where the shot was fired. The report of the rifle was followed by a scream of agony from the girl, and her mother seeing the person who had fired the shot, jumped from the car and rushed him across the fields. After a stiff race he actually laid hands on the man, and dragged from his head a cloak with which he was disguised. The man, who was almost completely attired in female clothes, then got clear off. When Mr. Bingham immediately the cloak, returned to the trap, he found the wounded girl in an almost unconscious condition from pain and loss of blood. Mrs. Bingham, who also accompanied her husband, was scarcely capable, through fear, of holding the reins. Mr. Bingham immediately drove into Belmullet, and informed the police of the attempted assassination and procured medical aid for the wounded girl, who was in a precarious condition. The bullet had struck the fleshy part of the arm below the elbow. Mr. Bingham carried no firearms, although he has been threatened on several occasions. He is at present boycotted.

Addressing about 10,000 people at the Dungan Convention, on Wednesday, Mr. Parnell said he had no idea of seeing such an enormous number to welcome him. He expressed his enthusiasm which the people of the county of Waterford and the bordering counties showed in the cause. If they would adhere to the two main principles of the Land League—that no man should pay a rack rent or take a farm from which a tenant had been evicted—in a very short time they would secure the land for the Irish people. When coming there he saw land for which 20s. per acre was asked, and the late landlord was not entitled to more than 10s. per acre. The land was reclaimed by the tenant, and the landlord was only entitled to its worth in an unclaimed condition. Referring to the Land Act, he advised them not to use it where it would do harm. The Land League proposed to enter the Court, and to get the legislation by a Saxon Government, but pay their shopkeepers and their labourers, and clothe their children, and thus raise themselves from the degradation which alien rule had cast upon them. The farmer who paid unjust rent, robbed himself, and his family, and his whole community. He hoped this was at an end. It was well for Irish members to be a good deal in Ireland. It infused a strong spirit into them—laughter and cheerfulness—and they did not benefit much if they were in London. It was, he thought, by being in Ireland that they would be able to tell the truth to the people. Mr. Parnell said he would advise them to struggle on till they obtained self-government. Resolutions were passed endorsing those of the Dublin Convention.—Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., Mr. Forster, M.P., and Mr. Leamy, M.P., also spoke.

A banquet was given in the evening, the Rev. E. A. Burke, of Dungan, presiding. Messrs. Parnell, O'Donnell, Leamy, Power, and Healy, members of Parliament, were present. The toast of the evening was "Prosperity to Ireland." Mr. Parnell said that previous to this, the toast was coupled with another name, that of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and he advised them to change it. The higher principle of the Land League was that it had been often said that the enemies that the Land League injured the artisans and the shopkeepers, but while he admitted that it injured them to some extent, he would remind them that Ireland would be worse before than after. The Land League was necessary to sweep away the fabric of landlordism upon which the institutions of the country rested. Referring to Irish manufacturers, he advised them to "Boycott" English goods, and in future to use only native goods. The Land League would have national independence, which was the ultimate object of the Land League. Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Healy, Mr. Leamy, and Mr. Power also spoke, urging the people to stick to the Land League as the only means of freeing themselves from the alien rule which had kept them in serfdom so long.

SHALL LADIES WEAR...?

A great revolution is at hand. The lady of fashion is about to introduce to society, on her own person, a change of attire to which she has once the most resolutely opposed. But she is not alone in this. A leader, but a slave, of that to which she consecrates her existence. When the ruling modiste orders her something new and perhaps startling, she dares not refuse it; the fashion of the day is a law, and she who lives in the fashion of the day, constantly submit to physical discomfort in order that they may keep to the front: dress is to them a matter of such vital importance, that they will sacrifice personal ease to the desire to be in fashion. They are going to sacrifice a most cherished prejudice. The Bloomer costume was a thing which they disregarded altogether, or thought of with horror. Yet now that the Parisian modiste have, in the form of a new style, set to work to utilise the idea which was the basis of this costume, women of fashion will without a word. And so the most inviolable opponents to feminine trousers are eaten away by their own weapons. Fashion having overthrown the fashion, the votaries of fashion must follow. But the next step is the outside public of male humanity which gives the final and most valued opinion on woman's dress, are as yet unacquainted with the change being being inaugurated. Doubtless they may not see the front view of a lady's skirt has a new aspect; that it seems to form something dimly resembling a wide-floated trouser over each foot, united by a fold of material which she walks in, and which she wears as she walks. The newest mode of making a lady's skirt is a notable instance of the ingenuity of the French feminine mind. In reality the garment in question is very like a pair of trousers, substantially built and well wadded, the form being the only concession to impossibility. Upon this point, the fashioning material is draped with such skill, that it produces all the outward elegance of an ordinary lady's dress. In just the way the wearer walks about, it is just possible to perceive that she wears in two garments instead of one. It is probable that the ladies who preside in these strangely-designed dresses will quickly attract attention, from the fact that the shape allows of real freedom and ease of movement. The tied-back dresses, which made a woman step as if she were in chains, are now really a form of garment which allows of grace and elegance. In her wonderfully well-disguised trousers, the lady of fashion can step into her carriage without undue distress, can sit down naturally, can indeed use her limbs with the same freedom as the wearer of the true breeches. All this is very nice; but what will come of it? It looks terribly like the first signs of a great revolution. Gradually the draperies will diminish, and the double shape of the dress become more pronounced. Day by day we shall become more used to the delicate differences in cut and style which the costumiers

will introduce. As custom compelled us to accept and grow used to crinolines and other enormities of feminine attire, so we shall slowly and almost unconsciously accept this change. From the ladies' point of view the new garment is, however, charming indeed. It has all the advantage of appearing very comfortable, that it bears great resemblance to the better walkers and better dancers now that the genius of the modiste has given them freedom, while preserving appearances, by means of these pantaloons dresses. And no one will be so foolish as to go against leaders of fashion, as the ladies themselves cried out against the enthusiastic advocates of the Bloomer costume. Who would have the courage to declare that anything fashionable was indecent, degrading, or ugly? Or, if persons sufficiently courageous were found, who would listen to their criticisms? No one. Fashion is relentless, and pursues its own course, despite all opposition from those outsiders who are not in the great world. Only men high priests, the dwellers in its holy of holies, are listened to. If they choose to gradually lessen the draperies which veil the actual garment, until at last the trousers are openly worn and acknowledged, none can hinder them. The prejudiced fair ones who used to petticoats will then no longer be so modest, but simply old-fashioned.—World.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

BALMORAL, WEDNESDAY.

The Queen went out yesterday morning, accompanied by Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice. Her Majesty was attended by Lady Churchill.

THEATRICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT ABERDEEN.

Mr. Edgar Bruce, the lessee of the Prince of Wales Theatre, may congratulate himself upon being the only manager who has had the honour of producing a play in the presence of Her Majesty for more than 20 years. About this time last year, when the Queen, in company with one or two of her children, went to the Adelphi Theatre to see the *Colleen Bawn*, and from that time forth her Majesty, formerly an ardent supporter of the drama, has never been inside a theatre or an opera house. The Prince of Wales, however, deeming it likely that the Queen would be inclined to patronise a theatrical entertainment if given at Aberdeirie, summoned Mr. Edgar Bruce, who was at the time performing at Edinburgh, and proposed to him to put up a stage and bring his company to Aberdeirie. Mr. Bruce, aided by some local talent, soon turned the old coach houses of the castle into a charming theatre, and on Tuesday night produced, before a large and distinguished audience, the comedy which has been running at the Prince of Wales Theatre since February last. Her Majesty arrived from Balmoral at nine o'clock, and this was the signal for the other guests, who had assembled in the hall at Aberdeirie, to pass into the theatre. Among those present were Princess Beatrice, Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), Lord Napier of Magdala, the Duchess of Devonshire, Lord Charles Beresford, Lord Rosebery, Mr. Horace Farquhar, Lady Mandeville. As her Majesty entered the hall, the band struck up the National Anthem, and the welcome accorded to the Royal party was of a most exceptionally cordial nature. The comedy, once commenced, and despite the somewhat cramped dimensions of the stage, and the still more trying ordeal of such an unusually brilliant audience, the actors acquitted themselves admirably, and the constant laughter and applause testified to the satisfaction of the audience. The curtain was drawn upon the last act at half-past eleven, and her Majesty, who had thoroughly enjoyed the performance from the commencement to the close, expressed to Mr. Bruce, who was presented to her by the Prince of Wales, her gratification and approval. After the departure of the Queen the party broke up.

The Earl and Countess Cowley have arrived in Albemarle-street, from visiting Earl and Countess Sydney, at Deal Castle, on their return from the Continent.

The Dowager Countess of Kinnoull has left Thomas's Hotel for Aix-les-Bains.

Viscountess Cambermeir and Hon. Mrs. Hunter, returned to Belgrave-square from Marlborough House, Upper Norwood, on Tuesday, after a stay there of two months.

Sir Henry Havelock-Allan was slightly quieter on Wednesday, but his medical attendants do not deem it advisable that he should yet be allowed to see any members of his family.

Captain and Hon. Mrs. Woolmore-Smith have arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Rugby. The marriage of Lord Charles Pratt, Captain 52d Regiment, youngest son of George Charles, second Marquis Camden, K.G., with Miss Florence Stevenson, daughter of Major Stevenson, formerly of the 7th Dragoon Guards, was solemnised on Wednesday at the old parish church of Aylesford, Kent. There were twelve bridesmaids—the Ladies Elsiebeth, Clara, and Theresa Pratt, sisters of the bridegroom; Miss Stevenson and Miss Edith and Miss Mabel Stevenson (twins), cousins of the bride; Misses Hilda, Evelyn, and Giovandoline Brassey, Miss Hilda Campbell, Miss Violet Addison, and Miss Ethel Stevenson, nieces of the bride. The bride wore a dress of white brocade satin, the front of the skirt being trimmed with lace thickly embroidered with pearls, and a bouquet of orange-blossoms on the left shoulder; and over a wreath of orange-blossoms a tulle veil was fastened by diamond stars, her only other jewels being diamond earrings. The bridesmaids were dressed in cream silk brocade bodices and sashes over tulle of cream, and their dresses were covered with flosses of cream lace and ivory beaver Rubens hats with ivory ostrich feathers. Each wore a diamond fly brooch with ruby eyes on a bow of red, white, blue, and buff striped ribbon, the colour of Lord Charles's regiment, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a bouquet of roses. The ceremony was performed by the Bishop of Aylesford, assisted by the Rev. H. Harbord, of Tavistock, and the Rev. C. Grant, vicar of Aylesford. Afterward, Mr. H. A. Brassey, M.P., and Mrs. Brassey entertained the wedding party at breakfast at Preston Hall. At half-past three o'clock Lord and Lady Charles Pratt took their departure amidst a shower of rice and old satin slippers for Paris on their wedding tour. The bride's travelling dress was of chestnut brown velvet, with bonnet to match. The carriage had only been driven a few yards before it was unhorsed by the non-commissioned officers and men of the 52d Regiment, who drew the carriage from the south front of the hall to the park lodge leading to the Maidstone road, the band of the regiment playing a spirited air.

THE HOME SECRETARY ON PRIZE FIGHTING.—The Birmingham correspondent writes:—The Home Secretary has issued circulars to the chairmen of quarter sessions requesting them to pay special attention to cases of breach of the peace, or what the right hon. gentleman describes as the recent "epidemic of pugilism." In Worcestershire about thirty men already committed for trial for taking part in prize fights while in Warwickshire. A man is in custody for killing another in a fight. Several detectives and police officers were scouring the country around Birmingham, believing a contest between two noted prize fighters is about to take place for £200.

ENGLISH SERVANTS IN FRANCE.

English Consuls on the Continent have frequently to deal with the most grievous cases of girls who affirm that they have been lured from their country under false pretences. They come to the Consular offices destitute and crying, and want to be sent back to England. Their stories are always the same. They were tempted abroad by the offer of good situations, but were ill-treated by their employers, who ended by turning them into the streets. When the Consul makes inquiries, he discovers that their narratives contain but a grain of truth. The injured housemaid is ascertained to be a girl who had a good situation, but had lost it through misconduct. Her employers offered to say her passage to England, but she refused, and preferred to seek a living elsewhere. Getting another situation, she was discharged again, and, going from bad to worse, ended by knocking at the Consul's door. The Consul almost always endeavours to find such applicants home, though their pecuniary means for doing so are not so inexhaustible as the applicants are mostly disposed to think. In large cities, like Paris and Brussels, where many English reside, almost entirely for the purpose of recruiting British subjects who have come to France abroad through improvidence or misbehaviour. English girls can do very well for themselves abroad if they please. They may possibly be more exposed to certain temptations than in England, but French morals are not very strict, and French mistresses seldom care to inquire into the antecedents of their female servants, or to trouble themselves about where they go on their "summers" in the country, after all, if a girl yields too easily to temptation, she is not worth the trouble of sending her home; and the very laxity of French manners has this advantage, that a girl who loses one situation through too flagrant misconduct, will find it easy to get another, and she is thus able to retrieve her character. All French people take it as a matter of course that servants have been dismissed for some fault or other; so that when a girl is out of a situation she has only to go with her *laissez-passer* to a *bureau de placement*, and will obtain another place without having to dread unpleasant inquiries. Masters and mistresses are more particular in the country; but in Paris and other large cities the carelessness with which people take strange girls into their houses, and leave them in charge of valuable property, is surprising. As to treatment, the French are kind masters, being accustomed to address their servants with courtesy, and to allow them to move freely in the country. If a servant feels wronged about her wages she has only to apply to a *Juge de Paix*, who will see her righted in a few minutes. As soon as she understands French, she will find that much from her fellow-servants, who regard the *Juge de Paix* as their sworn friend, commissioned by Government on purpose to assist quarrelsome domestics in worrying their employers. The *Juge de Paix* holds his daily sittings in the *tribunal* of noisy women, and it is very seldom that he does not give judgment in favour of plaintiffs. Again, if an English girl goes utterly wrong in France, she has no need to apply to her Consul or to private charity in order to get back to England; nearest need she take to her own country, and she will find that her wages she has only to apply to a *Juge de Paix*, who will see her righted in a few minutes. As soon as she understands French, she will find that much from her fellow-servants, who regard the *Juge de Paix* as their sworn friend, commissioned by Government on purpose to assist quarrelsome domestics in worrying their employers. The *Juge de Paix* holds his daily sittings in the *tribunal* of noisy women, and it is very seldom that he does not give judgment in favour of plaintiffs. 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Gilbert Edward Campbell, Baronet, forty-four, was placed in the dock at the Leblone Police-court to-day, and charged by an insane person, and not under any control, and with threatening to commit suicide at the Langham Hotel. Inspector Moore, of the Criminal Investigation Department, Scotland-yard, stated that, in consequence of a letter received from Mr. Campbell, solicitor, which had been sent to the Alliance Assurance Company, situated at the Langham Hotel on Wednesday, which the address at the head of the letter, and the defendant in his room, No. 170. He read the accused the letter, and he said he written it. The letter (which Mr. Cooke told the witness to read) was as follows:—
"170, Langham Hotel, October 4th, 1881.
"My dear directors:—I have been foolish enough to give the small sum that I asked. I now

THE LANCET

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THE TRANSVAAL.

There is little reason for surprise at the latest performance of the Boer Triumvirate, although a cynic might derive amusement from its consideration. The attitude of the Triumvirate throughout the negotiations might not inaptly be compared to that of the fisherman and his wife in the German story, who made one monstrous demand after another from the Turbot. There was, it will be remembered, a point at which the fish's patience gave way, and it may be hoped that at the present juncture the parallel will be found as close as it has hitherto been. The desire to make a one-sided agreement is perhaps neither novel nor unnatural, but seldom has such a desire been expressed with so simple or so cynical an openness. When it was first proposed that the Queen should be styled Suzerain of the Transvaal, some doubts were entertained as to the exact meaning or value of the title, and possibly its ambiguity may have encouraged the present attempt of the Triumvirate to make it an absolute cipher by rejecting the stipulations of the Suzerain's control over the external relations of the State, and power to veto laws. In agreeable contrast to the position proposed for the Suzerain, it is modestly assumed for the President, who, in the estimation of the Triumvirate, is hedged with such divinity that it would ill become him to be a member of "any Commission." As might have been expected, the articles affecting native interests seem to the Triumvirate the reverse of acceptable. The third, which provides against any enactment affecting native interests being passed without consent given through the British Resident, is described as "opposed to the spirit of complete self-government." Four articles are objected to as "superfluous," and one as "redundant." Among them is Article 16, which follows:—"The Sand River Convention of 1852 in providing that 'no slavery, or apprenticeship, or any other practice, shall be tolerated by the Government.' At this, it would seem, the Triumvirate wraps itself indignantly in its virtue, and protests against the Boers—the natives' best friends—being told not to do what they never dream of doing. If it is granted, for the purpose of argument, that no Boer ever did, does, or will wish to have anything to do with 'slavery, or apprenticeship, or any other practice,' then why may it be asked, this indignation, which seems at least as 'superfluous' as the articles objected to? It is generally found that the objections of people whose highly strung natures are offended by the existence of laws and regulations are founded upon something more than sentimental delicacy. The same keen sense of honour which is roused by the prohibition of slavery and the suggestion that the President should be a member of the Native Location Commission, has led the Triumvirate, not unreasonably, to attempt the simple and not very original move of repudiation. In fine, what the Triumvirate proposes to do is to accept every article favourable and to reject every article unfavourable to the comfort and supremacy of the Boers in a Convention already signed by the Boers' accredited representatives. The Convention was sent to the Volksraad not to be discussed point by point over again, but to be ratified or rejected en bloc—rejection to be followed by the reversion of the country to the British Crown on the 9th of next month. It is perhaps not strange that such a stipulation as this may be safely regarded as an idle form, or that, as long as the present Government is in office, they have only to ask often enough and loudly enough in order to get whatever they please to ask for. But it is perhaps hard upon them in time, the process of disillusionment may turn out to be unpleasant. We have, it is true, learnt to be surprised at nothing that Mr. Gladstone may do, but it is scarcely to be imagined that the Government can hesitate for a moment as to the course to be pursued on this occasion. That the Transvaal troubles will come to an end hardly be hoped or supposed; but it will at least be well to postpone their renewal by firmness at this juncture.—Saturday Review.

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The Spectator asserts that there never was a more unfounded charge made than that Mr. Gladstone's Government lacks manliness. On the contrary it might be said that the Government is almost too obstinate in its firmness. Its objects granted, the Government has adhered to its resolves with almost bull-dog tenacity:—

In the East, in spite of the most shameful treacheries, and some moments of most serious danger, it held on to its resolve that Europe, and not any one Power, should enforce the Treaty of Berlin, increasing the pressure at every fresh evasion, until even Turkish obstinacy gave way, and those "impossibilities"—the cession of Dulcigno, the cession of Thessaly, the autonomy of East Roumelia, and the halt of the Hapsburgs in the Balkans—were all secured together. Turn to Egypt. Having decided that the joint protectorate must be maintained, or England left sole protector, the Government has maintained its purpose steadily, consistently, and so far successfully. It has shown no pity, though the cost has been great. Take Afghanistan. The Government said from the first, they should leave Afghanistan when and how it suited them, and in spite of the wrath of their opponents, and the criticism, much harder to bear, of their supporters, they have left it alone, leaving it, just when their action made it most dangerous. Take Afghanistan. The Government said from the first, they should leave Afghanistan when and how it suited them, and in spite of the wrath of their opponents, and the criticism, much harder to bear, of their supporters, they have left it alone, leaving it, just when their action made it most dangerous.

THE SPREAD OF RUFFIANISM.

No one, the Spectator remarks, who reads the police reports can fail to have been struck during the last few months with the enormous increase in the class of what may be called "riotous offences." Isolated cases of wife beating and street robbery are of tolerably regular recurrence, and so long as men beset themselves with drink, and are subject to the passions of cupidity and jealousy, these forms of crime are likely to remain beyond the reach of the deterrent influence of the most savage penal code:—

The police, who are extraordinarily slow in adapting themselves to any new unfamiliar form of crime, appear to have been completely quelled in many places by the roughs. In Kingston, the inhabitants have been compelled to follow Californian precedents, and to band themselves into vigilance committees, who execute summary and summary vengeance upon the disturbers of the streets. The military organisation of the Salvation Army has enabled it, in more than one instance, to render a good account of its enemies. But in some of the lower parts of London there is literally no security against personal violence, and scenes are enacted every night, which, if they are reported from Ireland, would immensely strengthen the cry which is perpetually being raised for more coercion. There is nothing more contagious than this kind of ruffianism, which is all the more formidable because it is not confined to, nor, indeed, mainly practised by, those who belong to what is ordinarily regarded as the criminal class. Hitherto, the evil has been grappled with in a half-hearted way by the magistrates, who have contented themselves, for the most part, with inflicting fines which are hardly felt by those upon whom they are nominally imposed being easily met with a small subscription from the different members of the gang, and which carry with them no personal discomfort and no lasting disgrace. The remedy is to be sought partly in a more discriminating administration of the present law, partly in an improvement of the law itself. The great mass of these street outrages come within the general category of assaults, and the punishment for an assault is, as a rule, roughly adjusted to the amount of violence used and the gravity of the injury inflicted. A broad distinction ought to be drawn between mere outbursts of temper or passion and the organised ruffianism which lays a trap for its prey, and which attacks without provocation and in pure wantonness. Wherever it can be shown to the satisfaction of the magistrate that the case with which he is dealing belongs to this latter class, he should punish without regard to the amount of injury actually done, and impose as long a term of imprisonment, with hard labour, as the law will allow him to give.

MR. GLADSTONE AT LEEDS.

Mr. Gladstone was yesterday presented with eighty-six addresses from the Leeds Corporation and various Liberal Associations of the town and of the North of England:—

The Right Hon. gentleman, in acknowledging the addresses, said he knew the distinction which ought to be drawn between attachment to principles and the strict merits of a person who came before them accredited in account of his association with them, and, secondly, the unbounded generosity with which the people of this country under all circumstances, whatever their name or class, appreciate the efforts of those who have endeavoured to serve them. Under these circumstances, without being able to appropriate all contained in the addresses, he cordially and gratefully accepted the whole. There was one expression in the Mayor's address on which he pressed in the Mayor's statement that over 300,000 persons who now form the population of that great and advancing town were not all of Liberal opinions. He would go so far as to make the concession that he was glad that there were some who were not of Liberal opinions—laughter—he was glad, subject to the consideration that there were not too many. (Laughter and cheers.) He could, however, never cease to bear in mind that division in political opinion was one of the unfailing characteristics of a free country, taken in connection with the necessary division of our imperfect faculties; and, in the second place, that it was in the power of each political party to contribute immediately to the life and advantage of the other. There was much in the jealousy with which each exercised the functions of its respective duty, and he would say he thought they would be the better for close inspection and vigilant criticism. What the Liberals desired was not the extinction of "party," but in the first place that all England might be free to express its opinions, and, secondly, that in matters in which they differed they should each act with sincerity and earnestness of purpose and uprightness, devoting themselves to what they considered to be the best interest of the country. (Loud cheers.)

THE CONDITION OF IRELAND.

Mr. Gladstone was entertained on Friday night at a dinner in the Colonnade Club, Leeds, by J. J. Leeson, Esq., president. In responding to the toast of his health, Mr. Gladstone confined his remarks to the state of Ireland, which, he said, was not and ought not to be a party question. He stated his intention to speak plainly and explicitly on the subject, so as to meet the challenge of the leader of the Conservative party. All those who knew the Land Act must admit that it had given a reasonable security to the Irish tenant. Whilst desiring to do justice to Mr. Dillon for his devoted attachment to his country, and to his position as president, Mr. Gladstone said that none of his hearers would be so foolish as to reject the boon offered them as had Mr. Dillon. They would not keep men in want who might be in abundance; in insecurity who might be enjoying a stable confidence; and in poverty who would be seeking the means of provision for their families, when they might have those means at their command, on account of their ulterior views. Mr. Dillon would not give up his extreme national views; neither would he, though he might be a member of the Government, attempt to plunge that country into permanent disorder and chaos by interfering with the operations of the Land Act. That was the conduct of Mr. Dillon, an opponent Mr. Gladstone was glad to honour. But he had the painful duty of saying that the Land Act, as it stood, was nearly the first time in the history of Christendom, a small body of men had arisen who were not ashamed to preach in Ireland the doctrine of public plunder. He made that charge advisedly in the situation which he held, and he would not shrink from it. He had from him by demonstrative evidence and by the hard necessity of the case. Half a century ago the people of Ireland gave their confidence to Mr. O'Connell, a man of most remarkable gifts and powers, but not always acceptable in his opinion of the Transvaal to his supporters, who were leaving it, just when their action made it most dangerous. He always declared his loyalty to the Crown, his desire for friendly relations with Great Britain, his respect for Great Britain. He declared his respect for law and human life, and said that no political change should be prosecuted by the shedding of blood, and, finally, O'Connell always availed himself in the promoting of any cause, of every measure which tended to the happiness of the Irish people. That was the political education of the people of Ireland half a century ago. Mr. Gladstone said that there was a Government which, as regards Ireland, went forward steadily on its own path, pushing aside opposition, disregarding criticism, utterly reckless of threats, it is the present one.

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French Offices:—LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

PRICE 40 CENTIMES

LONDON, OCTOBER 11-12, 1881.

FRANCE AND GERMANY

THE CESAREWITCH.

It was possible to contend that the Derby, the Grand Prix, and the St. Leger had fallen to them merely because they happened to be the possessors of two good three-year-olds in a year when English horses of that age were far above average merit. But in the Cesare-

witch, Foxhall met some of our best racers including such thoroughbred good horses as Chippendale and Petronel, and he was the worst of the weights, his victory by twelve lengths entitles America to claim the highest honour. Moreover, Fiddler, the third placed in the race, is of direct Yankee blood, his son of Proakness. Both that colt and Foxhall have been outsiders in the Cesarewitch betting until the last Meeting, when each unexpectedly carried off a valuable prize with consummate ease. At once they took a leading place in the betting list, indeed, from the date of his victory in the Grand National Stakes, Foxhall remained first favourite. It is not surprising, therefore, that he has suffered considerable loss, and a similar result attended the St. Leger, our bookmakers have good grounds for regretting the appearance of America in the lists. It is true, of course, that after this brilliant performance, the chances of Foxhall are full of such sudden changes from good to bad fortune, and vice versa. If, however, they possess any better two-year-olds than Mr. Lorillard's Gerald, who ran in the First O'Connell's, they ought to be able to hold their own now in the event. The colt was beaten, it is true, but he was the pick of our own two-year-olds, and as he had run and won in America earlier in the year, it is not likely that he was in perfect training. Foxhall now has a better chance than ever, since he was vanquished last spring by Bend Or. If we may judge from these instances, American horses would seem—like the offspring of Sterling—to improve with age, and in that case our bookmakers will have to take a watchful eye on Gerald next year.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND M. GAM-
BETTA.

The *Times* publishes another letter of more than ordinary interest from its Paris correspondent. It relates to the rumour of an impending interview between M. Gambetta and Prince Bismarck. The writer says:—

In July, 1878, I had a long conversation with Prince Bismarck, to which I have not the first time I have alluded. I have been twitted, indeed, with putting so much material into a single interview; but in the course of four hours a man like Prince Bismarck, especially when in a communicative mood, is bound to give a deal that an attentive listener may well remember. After dinner we adjourned to the drawing-room, where the Prince began smoking his long pipe and talking on a variety of topics. The conversation was carried on in the presence of Prince Hohenzollern, German Ambassador to Paris, Prince von Hohenhausen, and the Countess of Stolberg, and the Countess of Bismarck's staunchest adherents, possessing his full confidence, and who, while Chief Secretary at the Paris Embassy, had become thoroughly acquainted with various political questions. The Prince spoke of various matters of importance to the Plenipotentiaries, the Congress, the French Statesmen, and even French literature. Gambetta's name having been mentioned, the Prince exclaimed, "Gambetta! That is a man I should like to see before I die. Despite the fact that, on the contrary, he is a very remarkable man, I have never over the heads of my fellow-countrymen. I have been bewitching; yet it is said men who are bewitching are never great statesmen." "M. Thiers once told me," I interposed, "that your Highness was bewitching; yet you pass for a great statesman." "At any rate," he replied the Prince, "I am not that." "I have a reputation in Germany." Two days afterwards Dr. Virchow offered a commentary on these words by saying to me, "Bismarck knows the Emperor thoroughly, but he is quite unacquainted with Germany. He treats

As if we also had been conquered by him." "But I was not," he answered, to Prince Bismarck, after another half-hour, to Prince Bismarck, "I forgot on what occasion," "Yes, I should certainly not wish to die without seeing M. Gambetta." At hearing him repeat this sentence, my reflection was "Pray Heaven these two men may not meet," happened to me. Thiers, after a while, between two situations ; but this idea merely crossed my mind, and on leaving another thought occurred to me, Prince Hohenlohe and Baron Moltke were going along with me we walked up and down the balcony, and I heard the old-swail Palace guards, chatting over what they had been listening to for four hours, and, they, though used to the Chancellor's ways, were struck with the special interest of his conversation. What I was thinking was, "converting to them an idea which had been vaguely haunting my mind became clear to me, and I remarked, "I cannot imagine that Prince twice spoke by pure chance that I should hear M. Gambetta say it." I knew that I was acquainted with him, and that I had seen him on returning to Paris. He did not tell me to not to repeat what he had said ; he emphasized his praise of M. Gambetta as a man, and I was with a polite message. "I do not know the 'Prise de Paris'," you do, it seems to me we ought to arrange an interview. I can prepare the ground, and your Highness can take part in the negotiations." Prince Hohenlohe, as usual when struck by a suggestion, turned to me and said, "I will do it," and he went to the room, and, after a moment's silence, he looked smiling and nodded approvingly. Baron Moltke, perhaps better acquainted with the Chancellor's ideas on this point, also concurred in my suggestion, and he said, "I know the ways and means, but I feel it necessary to discuss this matter with the Emperor." I had a sudden action in such a matter, and it being now 11 o'clock I looked at my watch as I sign that I had other duties. Prince Bismarck, accordingly bade me good night, and, after stopping a few moments with Baron Hohenlohe, I left.

In a subsequent interview between the *Times* correspondent and Baron Holstein, which — the same topic was discussed, the Baron said: —

"You must see that this interview is a serious business and can only be entertained after having maturely weighed the matter. I am not a Chancellor for a conviction, and you have affirmed him in it, that M. Gambetta is destined to be the power of France not only powerful, but the power of a decisive character, not only powerful, but the power of peace. He thinks it desirable to get a near approach to him on whom it may some day depend whether peace be maintained or broken off, and to acquire by the interview an idea of the value of the thoughts cherished by M. Gambetta on the subject of peace. I am not sure that M. Gambetta, with such riches neither you nor I have any right to say that it is a rapprochement between the two men and that M. Gambetta is not a hyponote must be hyponote. The two men have fought against each other in their country. What was done before to the present effect belongs to the future. Therefore, I am not sure that it is of from this interview, if it should take place, it might distort his character and object. No one can say that M. Gambetta is not a hyponote, but it is not necessary to a refusal by one side to go to the other. There must be no question

on on that point, and

...not submit to even an 'academic' discussion of accomplished facts, which caused German blood to flow freely in France with the bodies of German soldiers. But, in the meeting between two men of peace, intentions and imbued with the values devolving on them may have salutary results, even if they renounce the personal satisfaction of triumphing over each other."

The conversation continued some time longer (observed the correspondent) and then ceased. While cognizant of the source the diplomatist had derived his ideas, he reflected that no one could foresee the turn the conversation between the two men it might take. He proposed to bring together world

take. I determined to give M. Gambetta all the indications I had gathered. I thought that it would be better for him to use his own discretion as to them or not, and to lead up the conversation as he could do so without danger to the subject prompted by his patriotism. Without thinking of the possibility of a negotiation, compromise, or of any such thing, I recommended to him that he had declared to me that he had only yielded to the reasons, urged by Count Molke, in demanding Metz and Lorraine; that he had seemed to me very enthusiastic about these conquests, and that in any case M. Gambetta would be sure him as to his own peaceful tendencies by his own words for compromise on the subject of Lorraine alone, even if it should only take the form of a passing allusion. Moreover, Prince Bismarck seemed just then really animated with the best of feelings towards France—that is, of course, in so far as is possible with him. He spoke of her, contrary to his ordinary tendency, with grave moderation, and had said to me the previous evening, "Since the change of ambassador France has been very well represented here. This is fortunate for everybody." My mind was made up from that moment, and I determined to enter upon that serious and delicate negotiation. I called on M. Gambetta almost immediately after my return to Paris, with the intention of talking to him about the subject with him. But this was my real purpose all the while. Knowing that I had just returned from Berlin, and that I had had a near view of the proceedings of the Congress, he at once spoke about that subject, and it absorbed our whole interview.

I quitted M. Gambetta without hinting what my object had been, but announcing a second call. Prince Hohenlohe was still absent; M. Gambetta was about leaving also, and I did not see him again till eight or ten days later. I then bluntly stated my pur-

poor. I began by repeating Prince Bismarck's words. It is not criticising him to say that he was sensible of the compliment. Anybody in his place would have been so. I then proceeded to emphasise the gravity of the affair. My first question was such an interview could be kept secret. I promptly re-assured me by exclaiming, "Quand je lo vouse, soyez tranquille, je puis faire perdre ma piste," words which I was told were the other day on a Cabinet Minister telling me, "vous pouvez pas ouïr ma piste." Nous avons une bonne piste. "I was then entered on the main question, and I communicated to him all I had heard and thought. Our conversation continued longer than before, and was so animated that I was even on the staircase as I was leaving. I then found Sir Prince Hohenlohe, and told him I had found M. Gambetta inclined to the scheme, and that set me at ease as to the possibility of its success. As the Chancellor was to stay another fortnight in Weissenhof, Prince Hohenlohe asked me to see him there later to resume the negotiations. I then felt that they might speedily come to something, and during the 48 hours' interval I began to reflect that any slip during that interval would have the gravest consequences. I pictured Prince Hohenlohe, myself, such as I had seen him with his formidable power of penetration, his *sangfroid*, which upsets all calculations, his ever wakeful presence of mind, which eludes all surprise, and his calmness, which has been able to treat with disdain all the clamours that have been aimed at me, I confess I shrank from the responsibility which might devolve on me in such an affair, and resolved to give the subject myself to Prince Hohenlohe, who did not return till the 10th, the Chancellor having left Kissingen on the 9th. I then considered myself as unconcerned in the scheme. On hearing people speak yesterday of M. Gambetta's visit to Germany, and an interview with the Chancellor, I thought it might be true, and that I had perhaps undertaken and carried through by others, was uneasy as to its consequences.

The Gambettist and other papers announce this evening that M. Gambetta has returned to Paris from Germany, whither he had gone to fetch a nephew. It is possible that M. Gambetta had a nephew in Germany, but it is impossible that he went to Germany merely to fetch him. It is, therefore, probable that he has not yet seen the Chancellor, or that on the point of taking office he feels satisfaction in reassuring public opinion by allowing the idea to become accredited that the interview has taken place; but the probabilities are that M. Gambetta, in the course of his peregrinations of the last few days, has found means to visit the Chancellor.

INVESTITURE OF KING ALFONSO
WITH THE GARTER.

The *Standard* correspondent at Madrid telegraphed on Tuesday night:—
The Marquis of Northampton and the other members of the Mission sent by Queen Victoria to this capital proceeded to-day to fulfil their duty by investing King Alfonso with

the Order of the Garter. They went in Court attire to the Palace, where, on their arrival, the band of the Halberdiers played "God save the Queen." Court circles, the nobility, and perhaps even more so the new Party in power, felt a particular interest in the ceremony, as the Castilian Monarchy has preserved its old orders of knighthood and the etiquette of the Bourbons. Old chronicles were examined, and antiquated rules of Courtly ceremony were discussed, to find records of previous instances of the Garter being conferred on a King of Spain.

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The Mission advanced slowly to the Royal Throne, and made a deep reverence. The bearers of the Insignia ranged themselves on the side of the Throne-room nearest to the chapinerothies and facing the throne. The audience-room is a long saloon with several windows, having a view on the Armoury and Court. The Throne is occupied by the King and Queen and the Court had ordered to be opened by which the Mission had arrived. The walls are hung with dark panels of silk, and the few pictures that the room contains are of the most splendid and valuable. The Missionaries of the Grandees and the nobles were standing to the right of the throne. On the left were the three Infantas—Dona Isabella in a dark blue brocade, with a necklace of large diamonds; Dona Paz, in a dark blue dress, with a necklace of pearls. Queen Christina wore a *trappe* of train covered with lace, and had a necklace of pearls and brilliants. Around the throne were the Ladies in Waiting and the

the Marchioness Santa Cruz, and the Countess Liorente. Opposite the throne were the members of the British Legation—Mr. Fane, *Chargé d'Affaires*, and Messrs. Langley, Lumley, and Macpherson—in uniform. The scene was most imposing when the Marquis of Northampton advanced towards the throne, where King Alfonso stood in ancient Court costume, much resembling the portraits of his Bourbon ancestors.

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King, "on this auspicious occasion." In his usual reply, such as follows, in Italian:—"I am very much honoured by the honour of receiving the insignia of the most noble Order of the Garter with which, by order of your exalted Sovereign, you are going to invest me with the assistance of Sir Albert de Bunsen, the ambassador of that Order, and I feel no less satisfaction in being more so on as auspicious an occasion the expression of friendly feelings that her Britannic Majesty professes for my person as well as for my beloved Consort, to which feeling I reciprocally sympathize with the most sincere and cordial sympathy." But the greatest gratification may be this to me, that the Queen of Spain may honour and this satisfaction, which, if possible is my gratitude when I consider that in granting me this high distinction your august Sovereign has wished at the same time to give a public solemn testimony of the friendship which exists between us, and in which I so eagerly share, to make avowed to the eyes of all the unalterable friendship which have long existed between Spain and England—ties made stronger as you have so perfectly expressed just now by the recollection, always present in my mind, of generous blood which has been shed on our battle fields, and of the countries shed on our battle fields. I request you, my Lord Marquis, when you communicate for her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain the faithful fulfilment of the mission entrusted to you, to be adorned as you are with most distinguished honours, and you will also be the interpreter of my feelings of gratitude, of the sincerity of my wishes for the constant felicity of your Queen and Royal family, and also for the prosperity of Great

King at Arms next delivered the letters of credence to the Principal Plenipotentiaries, who presented them and the Book of Statutes to King Alfonso. The First Plenipotentiary handed his commission to his Majesty, and the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Don Juan Garcia de Aranda, returned to Garter, after which it was required that the King should receive the credentials advanced and proceed to buckle the Garter round the left leg of the King, while Garter loudly read the admonition. Lord Northampton then placed the riband over the King's shoulder, and the King took off his sword, a fine Toledo blade. Garter received the sword, and will keep as an ancient relic remaining to his office. His Majesty was next invested with a sword, the gift of Queen Victoria. Lord Northampton afterwards in the name of the King presented the Mantle and Collar, and then, in his own name the Hat and the Star of the Order.

The King handed each of the Insignia to an officer of his household as he was divested of them, and when the ceremony was concluded the Plenipotentiaries, with their suites, retired by an ante-chamber, after profound reverences, and were accompanied by the Lord Chamberlain to the staircase. The Introducer of Ambassadors accompanied the mission to the Hôtel de Paris in the same state as they had come, with military honours, state carriages, and an escort of Horse guards.

The Marquis of Northampton, after the investiture, paid a visit to the Prime Minister and a number of Foreign Affairs. The members of the Mission were invited to a banquet, and a banquet is to be given at the Palace on Thursday. The present mark of Queen Victoria's sympathy has made many Spaniards and the Court of Spain recollect the past and the future. The present mark has shown such attentions to the monarch, who was recognised by England some weeks after his accession, and was the Prince of Wales, on the 1st of May in 1876. Spaniards also recollect the two important Missions of Lord Rosslyn and Lord Aberdeen on the occasion of the Royal marriages, and the present mark of sympathy shown by Queen Victoria to the Spanish Royal family in their sad trial.

THE CONSERVATIVE LEADERS AT NEWCASTLE.

Lord Salisbury in his speech at Newcastle on Tuesday night, of which we gave but a brief *résumé* yesterday, said that, as Mr. Gladstone was the originator of a new policy towards Ireland, he was responsible for the existence of the present state of things in that country :—

" In 1868 Mr. Gladstone was in the position of being out of office and anxious to obtain electoral power wherewith to oust his adversary. At the same time there was discontent in Ireland, and a rebellion was impending. When these three events came together a prudent astrologer would warn you that anybody who had got any interest in Ireland should look out for evil days. Mr. Gladstone persuaded the people of England to go to Ireland, and he himself, after he had assisted simply in this, of procuring the tranquillity of Ireland by offering to the occupants a portion of the property which had hitherto belonged to the owners. . . . That policy was not successful. . . . After that time, Ireland had been sufficiently tried and well at ease, there came a period of distress—there came again that malefic conjunction. Mr. Gladstone was again out of office. A general election was again impending, and there was again discontent in Ireland. But it is scarcely necessary that again ideas were thrown out and now gifts of their landlords' property were to be

made to the Irish tenantry." Mr. Gladstone had accused Mr. Parnell of preaching the doctrine of public plunder in Ireland; but Mr. Gladstone's Ministry preached the same doctrine. The Government had introduced a Bill they framed the Compensation for Landlord's Bill. Lord Salisbury hoped the Land Court would execute the duties entrusted to them in a strictly judicial spirit:—"If they do not execute those duties in a judicial spirit, if they allow the slightest taint of political consideration to enter into their decisions, they will pay any regard the popular storm that is raging at the doors, we shall then know the whole of this arrangement of judicial machinery has been instituted for the pur-

veiled scheme of public plunder. But I only spoke that hypothetically. I express the earnest hope and trust that no element but the purely judicial consideration will enter into these deliberations. As may be seen, there is no doubt that this measure was introduced in answer to an agitation purely calling for measures of public plunder." With regard to Mr. Gladstone's complaint of the loss of property in Ireland gave to him no more than a general answer. "Where was fault was that?" "Why should mortgagees attempt to interfere in a matter where their power is destroyed? Why should they ask themselves for the Government which has done nothing but degrade and oppress? In the autumn of last year Ireland was in a state of absolute disorder; neither life nor property was safe; and the strongest testimony of the exceptional and fearful character of the disorder was the flight of the Government from every side. What did they do?" "The only utterances obtained from the Government were the assurances of Mr. Bright that force was no remedy, and his further somewhat ambiguous statement of the fact that landlords were running for their lives. The Government absolutely declined to move."

When pressed to justify their inaction, we are told, hardly in covert terms, that it was necessary that a disorder should amount to such a point as to convince the members of the Liberal party in the House of Commons of its existence before they could venture to interfere. Above all things, it was necessary that the party should be kept together. Animals might be hamstrung, horses might be burned, men might be "carded" or stripped or beaten or murdered; but all this way of small ac-

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Mr. Stafford Northcote, in responding to the toast of the House of Commons, said that the House of Commons was the only body in the House had been greatly impeded by extraneous influences and interruption. "Let us endeavour to deliver ourselves from the tyranny and lawlessness of irregular members of the House," he said; but, while we seek to do this, we see that we are ourselves guilty of the worst tyranny—the tyranny of the Minister of the day." Referring to Mr. Gladstone's speeches at Leeds, Mr. Stafford said that Mr. Gladstone's judgment was affected by his prejudices. He said that the Government had landed interest, and against the Tories he entirely ignored all the great and heavy work that had been done by his opponents. "I took credit to himself as if he were the only one who had done anything," he said. Mr. Stafford would not attempt to follow him into the great details into which he had entered with regard to the commercial position of the country. Mr. Gladstone had called on him to say if he ever advocated a duty of 3s. upon corn. Mr. Stafford said: "I do not advocate a duty of 5s. upon a corn. I have said I never said a word in favour of protective duties. It is true there are many

The Conservative party who, with great energy and courage, have taken the lead, have argued the question from a false point of view. I do not share their opinions. I do say this, that, as you had a large gathering of divines in Newcastle last week, and as you have a large number of clergymen, an article of faith and a platitude, which I am not aware that anybody has put forward as a doctrine of protection otherwise than as a pious opinion. But this I have said, and I have said it deliberately. I am sure we are more than well expressed, if it is true that the agricultural interest, upon the well-being of which the prosperity of the country depends largely, is suffering from it, and if those who are in the front of the struggle in the former years, to the effect that the agricultural interest depends, as Mr. Gladstone said, on one of his Midlothian speeches, not on a single article of faith, but upon the agricultural enterprise of the country, they may be bound to consider in what way we can diminish the pressure which weighs on that part of our interest, and if it can be done, the agricultural interest suffers more than that our countrymen, and our poorer brethren we have a right to ask for its

On Wednesday morning the Marquis of Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote, in fulfilment of one portion of the programme arranged by the organizers of the Conservative demonstration in which they are taking part, proceeded by steamboat down the river Trent, and inspected the improvements made by the Tyne Commissioners. They were accompanied by the Duke of Northumberland and other prominent members of the party, in the *Charles Atwood* steamboat, which had been placed at their disposal by the Tyne Commissioners, some of whom were also on board. Other visitors were conveyed in launches, which followed in processional order.

of the Newcastle Corporation; the *Joseph Cowen*; with the Brethren of the Newcastle Trinity House; the *Lofthouse*; the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations; the *Robert Chambers*; with the Tynemouth Conservative Association; the *James Wilson*; the Jarrow Corporation; the *Louis Crawshaw*; with the *Victuallers' Association of Northumberland* and Durham; the *Flying Dutchman* and the *Providence*; with other Conservative Associations; the *Northumbrian*; with the members of the Tyne Commission. The Duke of Northumberland and his distinguished guests arrived at Newcastle station shortly after eleven o'clock, where the large crowd which was in waiting in and around the station met them with a very cordiality. At the quay gate there was a large and enthusiastic crowd, and a smaller gathering on the quay itself. Among those present were General Burnaby, M.P.; Mr. J. Cowen, M.P.; Sir G. Elliot, M.P.; Mr. J. C. Stevenson, M.P.; Mr. G. N. East, M.P.; Mr. C. M. Palmer, M.P.; Sir M. W. Ridley, M.P.; the Mayor and Sheriff of Newcastle; Mr. J. G. Riddell, High Sheriff of Northumberland; Mr. G. Crawshaw, and a number of other gentlemen connected with the town and district. The steamboats, gay with bunting and with bands playing, left the quay about half-past five, and bore the happy trio in their bright sunshine and with the refreshing breeze blowing. They were loudly cheered.

CHEAP LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS.

Cheap dinners are a necessity to be vast majority of the community. And to the most important section of that majority the dinner must not only be cheap, but fulfil one of two conditions besides. Either there must be a possibility of getting a dinner, or it must be served with a certain amount of style, show and circumstance. Not only is a clean table-cloth a pleasant accessory to any meal, but many men would be justly afraid of incurring their social status, and consequently their respect, by sitting down in public to a dirty one. And the table-cloth is for every thing else, must be paid for. Take the typical case of a young barrister in scant practice, or no practice as yet at all, and without, perhaps, even a fixed allowance from his parents. There are such; and there are certainly numbers who have to get up appearances to £200 a year. Sir Henry Campbell-Lord Melbourne told Mr. Shell, used to boast that he lived on £200 a year, and lived like a gentleman. Sir Henry even worked for a peerage; but his early life closed in melancholy poverty, and thirty years ago it is still possible to live like a gentleman on £200 a year; but then you must refrain from good dinners, except at your friends' expense. Sir Henry Parnell, when not asked to dinner, himself with a penny biscuit. The most luxurious man I saw, in the days of his struggling youth, dined for bread and beer, and beer he never freed himself in a similar position. Prudent, but ignoble, counsel to give to poor epicures would be to imitate the Chief Justice when Lord Campbell quantified wine, but not to take any quantity of wine, but no more than if, however, a man dines on a biscuit, he must take something more substantial. One solid meal a day the brain-worker must have, as well as the artisan. It matters not by what name it is called, though it may matter very much at what hour he takes it. The whole question of cheap dinners is inextricably mixed up with the whole question of dietary. A substantial breakfast necessitates a light lunch. Is it then more prudent to eat heartily as usual in the morning or at one or two meals in the afternoon? I think the latter. No man fit for African travel who cannot eat a beefsteak and onions at 4 s. In other words he makes the ability to eat an early and hearty breakfast a test of physical capacity. Clifford declared he would have no men on the staff on whom he could not eat their dinner of beefsteak for breakfast. The soldiers would feel too heavy for work after such an heroic repast; but neither would such persons feel in a bright condition for intellectual exertion after a substantial luncheon. And a man who cannot eat a substantial breakfast chooses between a soft breakfast and a substantial luncheon, not being able to put off the principal meal of the day till the evening. Moreover, the consensus of doctors seems to be against such a practice. It is impossible to give any general rule; but the safer plan is to eat a substantial breakfast, and to appear to be to take as good a breakfast as can be afforded and the lightest of lunches.

Cheap luncheons of this kind in abundance are to be had in the neighbourhood of Temple Bar. There is the Spanish Wine-shop, for instance, as it is popularly known, close to the church of St. Mary-le-Strand, where a glass of light wine will be had for three-halfpence. An added bun or Albert biscuits will cost a penny. Then there are standing luncheons to be had at several respectable taverns, so far as the custom of lawyers' clerks can render them so. Bread and cheese will cost two-pence, or three-pence, according to the quality. A unique meal can be had at the Cock for the price of sixpence for those who like it, and who do not shudder at the idea of a Welsh rarebit in the middle of the day. The delicacy in question, be it observed, is not at all indigestible, if properly prepared. It costs sixpence, or a penny, and is wonderfully good. As it is served with a crisp piece of toast you have no need of bread. The extra twopence mentioned is to be the waiter's fee—a penny more than he would get—gets—that he may not keep you waiting, and that you may get your beer (supposing you do not wish for water). For those who dislike water and are afraid of wine or beer in the middle of the day, there is a room's, with its famous cup of coffee for the price of the receipt for making which is not more than a penny.

The dinner secret, and supposing there is no dinner awaiting you in your own home or another, there are few more interesting and exciting occupations than dinner-hunting, assuming that you start with a vigorous appetite, and a slender purse, and are in no particular hurry. You may make wonderful discoveries. I have eaten the most wonderful things, and have made the most wonderful axioms that every eating-house, even of the poorest description, has a specialty—something is pretty sure to be good there. The dinner-hunter will make notes, and in a few days will have a list of houses to choose from, according to his taste. On a particular evening, for any kind of dish in the Bohemian menu he will thus have formed, he will scarcely find it possible to follow Bernethy's precept and dine on sixpence a plate. He will only discover many a "square meal," even at the most modest, at a price of a florin.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

ENGLISH AND BELGIAN FISHERMEN.—Some excitement was occasioned at Lowestoft on Monday by the landing of an instrument known as a Belgian "devil." At midnight Sunday the *Eagle*, drift-net boat, was hauled fourteen miles east by south from Lowestoft, when an Ostend trawler sailed over the *Eagle*'s net with a "devil" over her stern, and landed the *Eagle* from her nets. The *Eagle*'s warp got the heavier, was too strong, and the "devil" got too small and light to net the nets that it could not part them. The *Eagle* hove up towards the Ostender, the heavy beam of the latter coming under the *Eagle*'s bottom. The master of the *Eagle*, to save his boat from sinking, cut away the Ostender's gear, and on hauling up his nets found that the Ostender's devil had taken. The darkness prevented those on board the *Eagle* from seeing the number of the Ostender's

Sir A. Campbell, of Blythswood, had a rare drive last week on Invergelvie Moore, which he rents from Colonel Williams at Dalnawarr. The Duke of Devonshire, Earl Cairns, who was included in the party, leaves Dunira for the season in a few days.

I understand that if it becomes clear that Lord is a real and general resolution to prevent the Curragh from being a place where Lord and Lady Waterford will break up their Irish establishment, and will pass the winter with the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, at the Curragh, that the Duke of Devonshire is so popular in the county that this sudden change of plan is astonishing and alarming. It can only result in a very serious loss to the whole district.

A splendid stag was killed last week in the Curragh Forest by Lord Dalnawarr's keepers. No doubt the beast was originally escaped from a park in the district.

Lord Breadalbane has been shooting at Mount Forest with Sir Henry Alloupe. Several of the best birds have lately been killed in this noted ground.

I understand that Lord Breadalbane will take the Forest into his own hands next season, if he can come to a satisfactory arrangement with Lord Dudley, whose estate is situated in the district.

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THE GOVERNMENT AND MR. PARNELL.

At the Guildhall on Thursday Mr. Gladstone made an announcement which was received by all present with the utmost enthusiasm. The outburst of feeling was called forth by the news of Mr. Parnell's arrest; and we may safely say that an immense majority of the British nation and of loyal Irishmen will share that satisfaction. The Cabinet Council of Wednesday has had immediate results. Mr. Forster returned to Ireland armed with the decision of his colleagues, and before 10 o'clock on Thursday morning Mr. Parnell was in Kilmaboy. The insolent defiance of the Land League leader on Sunday was provoked by Mr. Gladstone's challenge at Leeds; but once given, this defiance could not rest unheeded and ignored. Mr. Gladstone can afford to disregard the taunt, certain to be flung, that Mr. Parnell's arrest is due to his offensive personalities. But the issue is one in which mere personal antagonism, if such exists, was far outweighed by other considerations. Law and lawlessness were, in fact, arrayed against one another, and the vindication of the law could no longer be deferred. For months past the law-abiding in Ireland have cried, "How long?" They have said that the most prominent agitator ought to have been arrested long ago under the Protection of Person and Property Act; but his own guarded utterances, the odium which would have been caused by the arrest of Mr. Parnell during the Parliamentary session, and the anxiety of the Government to avoid extreme measures made such a course difficult. The Executive was satisfied to imprison those who were more directly concerned in physical violence and intimidation. The arrest of Mr. Parnell is a confession that the work had begun at the wrong end, or only at one end. To aim high as well as to stop low is now the better motto of the Government. In this new rousing of the law, this stirring of new vigour, there is no fear that the Cabinet will not receive hearty and unwavering support from every party and nearly every section of a party in the country. It is known that one or two members of the Cabinet are opposed to the employment of force as a remedy; but there is no more reason why they should dissent from the arrest of Mr. Parnell than from the arrest of the most obscure Land Leaguer, unless the Coercion Act was meant for the satiation of an insatiable arch-agitator. The general approval in the three kingdoms of Mr. Parnell's imprisonment will only be denied here and there by a few associations which habitually mistake licence for liberty. It is substantially just that the man who has organised intimidation in Ireland, who has stirred up, with all the ability and eloquence at his command, hatred between class and class and between nation and nation, whose acquittal by a Dublin jury was a notorious miscarriage of justice, and who now, in furtherance of political ends, has declared his intention of keeping the tenant-farmers in a state of permanent discontent, should suffer and be made to feel that he cannot thus act with impunity.—Times.

The Standard says:—Mr. Parnell has been arrested because he has shown a determination to do everything in his power to deter the Irish tenantry from letting the Land Act have a fair trial. Sir Stafford Northcote, in his speech at Edinburgh on Thursday evening, admitted that on this account alone the Government were justified in the step they have taken. We fully agree with him in this respect; at the same time, it will be obvious to everybody, that though this may be a sufficient motive for the arrest of Mr. Parnell, and though the Legislature, which is the only judge and the jury in the matter, will be amply satisfied with it, and will be prepared to exonerate those who have authorised it, still it is an unfortunate, not to say an ugly, circumstance, that the first symptom of vigour the Prime Minister has displayed has been a blow struck at the man who, indirectly, on behalf of his own reputation, it will inevitably be urged that Mr. Gladstone contemplated with indulgent eyes the ruin of the landlords of Ireland, the overthrow of law, order, and social morality, the spread of disaffection and disloyalty, the dissemination of the most detestable doctrines, and the perpetration of the most detestable outrages, but that the moment his own Land Act was touched he was up in arms, he was inspired with an earnest zeal for the maintenance of his authority, and was instigated by prompt and active enthusiasm to vindicate his own labours. No impartial person will be able to deny that the Government have exhibited, on behalf of a questionable measure of their own creation, an ardour, a passion for seeing fair play, an eagerness for the triumph of its provisions, which they utterly failed to display for the ordinary laws of the land and the ancient Statutes of the Realm. The contrast is undoubtedly an unpleasant one; and it will be pressed home by the enemies of the Government. As dispassionate spectators of all the attendant circumstances of the present situation, we are obliged to recognise the presence of some disagreeable features in it, and to regret them. Nor are we honestly able to say that anything Mr. Gladstone let fall at the Mansion House on Thursday greatly mends his position in this respect. He said he did not fear the people of Ireland, but only those who were corrupting them by demoralising doctrines. He must surely be aware that a like accusation has been brought against himself, and by men of calmer judgment than he usually displays. Is it possible that he forgets the warning of Lord Beaconsfield, who distinctly foretold all that has occurred? Indeed, the Liberal Party are now only coping with the difficulties which Lord Beaconsfield explicitly predicted they would bring about. It is no exaggeration to say that, in at length displaying some trace of vigorous action in Ireland, the Government are only doing at the eleventh hour what wiser and stronger politicians would have done long ago, and which it ought never to have become necessary to do at all.

The Daily Telegraph remarks:—The arrest of Mr. Parnell shows that the warnings uttered by Mr. Gladstone at Leeds were seriously meant. It was high time that the open resistance to law and the organised disorder which have distracted Ireland for more than a year should at last be grappled with by the Government of the day. Mr. Forster was called Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, but the member for Cork appeared to be the real Chief Secretary for Ireland, when a few Sundays ago the latter functionary made a triumphal procession into his good city of Dublin escorted by all the rowdies of the Irish metropolis. Mr. Forster's policemen were only busy in clearing a space around the Harcourt-street Station in order that Mr. Parnell might go unimpeded to his carriage. Other duties have been found for them now, and the leader of the seditious conspiracy is in gaol. We advisedly describe it as a conspiracy, and we do not refer to the occasional outrages, Ayous hint at landlords, agents, and tenants; the mutilation of cattle, the midnight visits, the stones thrown at the police. It is a conspiracy so thoroughly organised and hitherto so successful, that the authorities and the police seem paralysed before it. The control of the South and West of the island have passed over to the executive of the Land League, and the leading organ of the party declared a few days ago that the only way of peace was a recognition by Mr. Gladstone of the authority assumed by Mr. Parnell. No doubt we might purchase a brief tranquillity by such a surrender, but apart from that ignominious and suicidal course the Government have adopted the only other alternative. They have flung down to the rampant ruffianism of the League a distinct challenge. They have arrested the man who, next to Michael Davitt, may be described as the head and front of the plot against order and law. Whether the act will be followed by a fresh outbreak of outrages, or whether, as usual, Irish seditious will collapse before Executive vigour, the course now adopted is as necessary as it is just. Of anything like a serious gathering of the people in an armed rebellion there is, we think, little chance. The peasantry, unfortunately, are armed, thanks to the expiration of the Act which would have placed difficulties in the way of their purchasing muskets; but they are not trained or drilled, and a regiment might disperse fifty thousand rebels. The people are shrewd enough to know this, and there will probably be nothing to deserve the name of open rebellion. Still there may be a renewed burst of violent and cowardly crimes, and landowners in isolated country houses will have to keep close watch and ward. For the fire which has been kindled in the minds of the people, and which has now spread far and wide, and will need very large and vigorous measures before it is extinguished.

The public must not now, observes the Daily News, rush to the conclusion that the arrest of Mr. Parnell will in any way solve the Irish difficulty. The evil is too wide and deep for anything more than slow and patient care. Mr. Forster has shut up Comus, but he may not be able to turn his wand and reverse his spell. It must, however, be remembered that Mr. Parnell was making a desperate struggle to prevent the Land Act from exerting its soothing and reassuring influence. He was afraid to let the Irish farmers know what had been done for them, lest they should lapse into content. His seclusion, which will if needful be followed up by other measures, is therefore likely to give the Land Act a chance. The Government has to contend with an organized system of terrorism which makes honest men afraid to pay their rents and paralyses the loyalty and law-abiding portion of the community. It is this terrorism which must be stopped, and that can only be done by dealing with its chief agents. The Irish tenants are placed in a position which makes them the envy of the tenants of the rest of the Kingdom; and if they are not even now content they will find no sympathy in the wide world for their complaints, but a hearty acquiescence in the means which may have to be taken to put an end to violence and disorder and to assert the supremacy of the law in the Irish division of the Kingdom.

AYOUB KHAN'S FLIGHT.

Fortune smiles upon England's protégé in Afghanistan, and there now at least seems some reasonable probability of his securing himself on the throne she placed at his disposal. The general—Abdul Kuds Khan—who was sent by him some time ago to operate in the direction of Herat while he himself struck at Candahar, reports that he has won two important victories, the one at Joar and the other somewhat nearer to Herat. The Globe says:—

Joar is a town on the Heri-Rud, only about 120 miles further up that river than Herat, and Abdul Kuds Khan must have lost no time on the road, as the route thither from Afghan Turkestan, his starting point, is both circuitous and difficult. In the light of this place he captured Ayoub Khan's father-in-law or rather one of them, as the Pretender is many-wived, we believe, like other Afghan chiefs. On hearing this bad news, the Lulabai who was appointed governor of Herat during Ayoub Khan's absence went out to meet the victor, but with no better success. He, too, met with severe defeat, and at once seems to have recognised the logic of events by treating with the American general. Matters having reached this critical condition, Ayoub Khan thought it best to seek refuge in Persia, instead of proceeding to Herat, and the American has, therefore, no open foe in the whole of Afghanistan. This is eminently satisfactory, so far as it goes, for either a reign of anarchy in Afghanistan, or the success of Ayoub Khan, our inveterate foe, must have given rise, sooner or later, to serious complications. If Abdurhaman Khan be wise, he will seek to consolidate the Durand line by all the means in his power. Numerically speaking, they are the most important tribe in Afghanistan, and if he can but win them over without giving offence to their hereditary foes, the Ghilzai, his rule will have every chance of permanency. It is a delicate and difficult business, we admit, to retain the affections of these two great and hostile clans, but the American has shown so much ability during the last few months that some grounds are afforded for hoping that he will solve this problem too. Ayoub Khan will probably now turn his thoughts to intrigue at Teheran. Most opportunely, Colonel Stewart was commencing his journey to Kabul, a Persian town lying between Meshed and Herat, where he will be in a good position to obtain early intelligence.

MR. PARNELL'S ARREST.

SPEECH BY MR. DILLON.

A special hastily summoned meeting of the Executive of the Central Land League was held on Thursday night at the rooms, Upper Sackville-street. A large crowd assembled in the street, and cheered the more prominent members as they arrived. Mr. Sexton, M.P., who had been through the gaol for a considerable time, Mr. Dillon, M.P., Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P., Mr. A. O'Connor, M.P., and other leaders of the movement were each loudly cheered on presenting themselves. Mr. Dillon, M.P., took the chair, and amid loud cheers, Mr. Sexton, M.P., read the following telegram from the Hon. P. A. Collins, President of the National Land League, America:—(Cheers.)

Parnell in prison must be the strongest force of the League. (Cheers.) Continue his policy, stand firm, and keep cool. The British game always is to crush agitation by provoking civil war. Defeat it. Keep the League on the old lines. (Cheers.) He patient as you have been bold. The American League will redouble the work, and stand by you to the end. (Cheers.)

Mr. Dillon, who was cheered upon rising, said: You will feel with me, I am perfectly sure, when I say I have never risen to speak and utterances of greater difficulty than I do to-night. (Hear, hear.) How painful and humiliating it may be, it is our duty, as in some measure entrusted with the guidance of the fortunes of our country, to face this situation with coolness and with calculation. It is almost unnecessary for me to say that this is the most trying and critical moment that has occurred in the history of our country and people during the century. They were before placed fairly upon their feet to prove the strength of courage and what amount of tenacity and perseverance in our race, and I do trust that the Irish race will come out of this struggle with a greatly improved reputation. They will come out either deeply disgraced or with a very much higher name before the peoples of the world. (Cheers.) If they allow this movement and this agitation to be put down by the arrest of such a man as Mr. Parnell—(cries of "Never")—if they allow him to lie in prison and be insulted in his prison by the Minister of England, without taking these measures which are within their power to avenge his imprisonment and to avenge the insults heaped upon him, all I can say is, that I trust their fate will be a very evil one in the future. (Cheers.) I have been informed that an indignation meeting of the citizens is convened to be held to-morrow in the Round Room of the Rotunda, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor Elect. (Cheers.) However, it is not possible that I should allow this occasion to pass without saying a few words on the matter of this outrage. (Hear, hear.) What is the cause of Mr. Parnell's arrest? The cause alleged is that he strongly urged the people to abide by the programme laid down by the National Convention—that is, he urged the people not to go into the land courts until the Land Act had been tested. He has been arrested on two warrants, and it is true those warrants state that he incited others to intimidate and prevent men from doing what they were legally entitled to do—namely, to pay their rents; and the second warrant charges him with inciting others to intimidate and prevent men from going into the land courts of law. Now these two statements are false. Every one in this room remembers what Mr. Parnell has said. I defy any man to put his finger on a single sentence which was an incitement, directly or indirectly, to prevent anybody doing what he was legally entitled to do. It is perfectly true he appealed to the Irish people and to the Irish farmers to abide by the programme of the National Convention—that is, the representative of the people had selected. It is true he urged on them the desirability of not pursuing a selfish and isolated course; but anyone who has carefully watched the course of public events in Ireland will be able to say that the fourteenth cannot escape the conviction that the arrest of Mr. Parnell is in a great measure, if not entirely, due to the private malice and spite of a certain Minister. It is a very serious thing that the arrest was preceded immediately by an outbreak of passion which astonished and disgusted even the warmest friend of Mr. Gladstone in this country. (Cheers.) The real truth is that Mr. Gladstone is a man of extraordinary vanity and who has been so much flattered by the devotion of months of labour was viewed by the Irish people, and rightly viewed, with suspicion and distrust, and that they had recognised that if there were to be any change in the Government, Mr. Parnell for them and not Mr. Gladstone, was carried away by ungenerous passion, and in his passion he broke through all restraints of law and all restraints of decency, and he appears on the scene like a general of Mahomed, with his Land Bill in one hand and his sword in the other. His message of peace to the Irish people reminds one of the Queen in "Alice in Wonderland."—(Hear, hear.) Other speeches followed.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 15—16, 1881.

MR. PARNELL'S ARREST AND THE STATE OF IRELAND.

The *Saturday Review* fears that it is an unfortunate accident that the necessity of arresting Mr. Parnell became evident only when he put himself in a position of special antagonism to the Land Act. The coincidence has already been gratefully made use of by Mr. Dillon, and is not likely to be lost sight of. There was a certain *note* in Mr. Gladstone's announcing that his Government, in ordering Mr. Parnell's arrest, "had taken the first step towards the vindication of law and order, and of the rights of property"—the existence of which Mr. Gladstone has thus tardily and suddenly remembered; but the first step having been at last taken, it is to be hoped that others will follow, and that the Cabinet will do its best to atone for its previous shameful vacillation. To have arrested Mr. Parnell is to have done so far well, if it is not quite the feat of daring that it might be thought from Mr. Gladstone's appeal at the Guildhall for encouragement and support. But, Mr. Parnell arrested, there remain others who are prepared to take his place and to make capital out of his arrest. The fact is that an organised scheme for destroying law and order, which might at one time have been checked with comparative ease, has been allowed to flourish and grow into alarming proportions. The beginning of it has now been made, and it is to be hoped that the Government will no longer hesitate as to the course to be pursued.

The *Spectator* has no sympathy with the storm of exultation which arose in the Guildhall as the arrest of Mr. Parnell was announced,—no feeling as regards the event, except that it is a most sad necessity. Whether his arrest will tranquillise Ireland does not depend upon the conduct of the Government, but upon that of the people of Ireland. The Government will do whatever is necessary to make the law unmistakably supreme, but the extent of that necessity does not depend on them. They have as little need as wish to tyrannise. If the Irish people, wakened out of the dream which they have been dreaming for two years, retire from the Land League organization, obey the law, and try whether the enormous gift they have received from Parliament will or will not remove their secular grievance, the Government will be as "inactive," as "weak," as "cowardly," as the worst Tory or Land Leaguer could desire. Its members are absolutely free from any desire to triumph over Irishmen, or even to do what would annoy those who believe that true government implies a measure of insolence—to offend Irishmen. In Ireland, as everywhere else, their policy is not violence, but that steady, continuous, irresistible pressure before which, when fairly exerted and with adequate force, all resistance not based on religious conviction invariably and inevitably gives way. Their work is not to conquer either Ireland or the Land League, but to re-establish law.

The *Times* calls attention to the fact that in the north of Ireland, at all events, the efforts of the Land League have not prevented farmers from taking steps to avail themselves of the new Act. The Commissioners have received a large number of applications from tenants desirous of having their rents fixed by the Court. This, is no doubt, a hopeful sign of the times. As a set off, however, must be mentioned the fact that the tenants on the Chatterton estate, near Bandon, have sent a communication to the head agent to the effect that they will not pay any rent until Mr. Parnell is released. This conduct is sure to be extolled and held up for imitation. It is manifest that if a movement of this sort spread it might be extremely inconvenient, though it might be very frequent evasions.

Whatever new developments may take place in the difficulties of the Government, their course is, in the main, clear. They cannot now turn back. They must persevere at all cost in the task of maintaining order. The leaders of the movement must be taught that their days of impunity and licence are over, and their followers or dupes, who now defy the police and soldiers, must learn by stern experience that they cannot always evade civil war without suffering the natural consequences and accompaniments of it. Firmness and vigour have been too long delayed. It would be folly and blindness to the lessons of the past to try any longer to mild remedies suitable for a patient in the incipient stages of disease.

The *Standard* asserts that if the tardy resolution displayed in the arrest of Mr. Parnell is carried no further, it will be said, and with some reason, that Mr. Parnell was arrested rather from a feeling of vexation and bewilderment than from motives of well-considered policy; from a desire to give the world the idea that the Government are in earnest, not from a sterling resolve to cope with disorder, dishonesty, and sedition in Ireland. The Government will commit the gravest mistake if they suppose that they can now afford to rest on their laurels while they drink in the hearty commendation of their countrymen, and watch the effect of one solitary act of firmness. The arrest of Mr. Parnell is some reparation for their long and lamentable inaction. But the public can accept it only as an instalment of what is due to the peace of the realm, to the honour of the Crown, to the rights and property of honest citizens in Ireland. Now that at last the Cabinet has awakened to a sense of what government really means, it will be its interest as well as its duty to make up for most lost time. Having struck, the Government must see that it strikes to good purpose. The Land League must be foiled, because the Land League means not only the beggary of the loyal and blameless landlords of Ireland, but the dishonour of the Queen's Government in that country.

The *Economist* says:—The Land Act before it had fairly started on its voyage had fair to be shipwrecked in port. The question now to be considered is whether the Government have chosen the best way to paralyze the machinations of the League and to secure a fair trial for the Land Act. We desire to make no predictions, but there are several considerations which lead us to the opinion that the Government has followed the wisest course of which the circumstances admitted. With Mr. Parnell's removal, the great guarantee for the mechanical unity of action which has made the pressure of the League so irresistible is gone. It is not as though we were endeavouring to force an uncongenial

law upon a reluctant people. The imprisonment of O'Connell was a fatal blow to the factious repeal movement of which he was the life and soul. It is not too much to hope that the equally bold and far more dangerous agitation of the Land League may collapse in the same way with the imprisonment of Mr. Parnell.

The *Statist* says:—It is not through any apprehension of the immediate consequences of the act that we condemn the arrest of Mr. Parnell. But it seems to us inconsistent with every principle of Liberalism. If the English public would keep their heads, and the Government would have a little patience, the Irish people would have recourse to the Land Act in good time. But the Government, by its blundering, has marred the effect of their good legislation. They postponed the Land Bill for the sake of passing their Coercion Bill, and now, when the Land Act is law, and is actually about to be put in force, they show their want of confidence in it by arresting the man who, of all others, has the credit in Ireland of having compelled the passing of that Act. These measures will not prevent the Act being availed of by the Irish tenants; but they will destroy all its healing efficacy. They will prevent any gratitude or any good feeling from being entertained on account of it. Thus, by the hapless blundering of Ministers, a really good work is spoiled, and the force which was never to be used for so violently plucked from our lips. The old weary work of repression in Ireland has to be continued, and the task of conciliation is postponed to an indefinite future.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND EGYPT.

The *Morning Post* asks what becomes of the position of Great Britain in Egypt and with respect to Egypt in view of what are likely to be the pretensions of France when the conquest of Tunis has been effected, assured as she is of the approval of Germany at the return to her ancient traditions of Mediterranean supremacy? The true policy of England in Egypt has always been to maintain as a self-evident fact that English interests there were simply indisputable, and not to be disputed. We claimed no sovereignty or suzerainty over Egypt. On the contrary, while supporting the guaranteed rights conferred upon the Khedive and his subjects, we were utterly convinced of the inseparable nature of the connection which bound Egypt to the Porte. To allow any breach of that tie was to throw wide open the doors to every kind and order of foreign intervention. Turkey can never be the foe of England unless England blindly be the foe of Turkey. Turkey and the Turkish Empire occupy precisely those regions of the earth's surface which in the occupation of a rival of England would ensure the downfall of our present empire, and perhaps, of our independence. We have not a single interest which the maintenance of the Turkish Power can endanger. Place what Power you will in authority upon the Nile, except Turkey and the balance of power in the East, what becomes of the route to India, what becomes of Syria, of Asia Minor, of the Levant, and the keys of India? The Liberal party and the Gladstone Government seem to be absolutely unconscious of the importance and enormous resources of their country.

AYOUB KHAN'S FLIGHT.

Fortune smiles upon England's protégé in Afghanistan, and there now at least seems some reasonable probability of his securing himself on the throne she placed at his disposal. The general—Abdul Kadir Khan—who was sent by him some time ago to operate in the direction of Herat while he himself struck at Candahar, reports that he has won two important victories, the one at Joar and the other somewhat nearer to Herat. The *Globe* says:—

Joar is a town on the Heri-Rud, only about 120 miles further up that river than Herat, and Abdul Kadir Khan must have had no time on the road, as the route thither from Afghan Turkestan, his starting point, is both circuitous and difficult. In the light at this place he captured Ayoub Khan's father-in-law or rather one of them, as the Pretender is many-wived, we believe, like other Afghan chiefs. On hearing this bad news, the Lushai who was appointed governor of Herat during Ayoub Khan's absence went out to meet the victor, but with no better success. He, too, met with severe defeat, and at once seems to have recoiled under the logic of victory, treating with the Amer's general. Matters having reached this critical condition, Ayoub Khan thought it best to seek refuge in Persia, instead of proceeding to Herat, and the Amer has therefore, no open foe in the whole of Afghanistan. This is entirely satisfactory, so far as it goes, for either a reign of anarchy in Afghanistan, or the success of Ayoub Khan, our inevitable foe, must have given rise, sooner or later, to serious complications. If Abdurrahman Khan be what he is reputed to be, a man of great ability by all the means in his power. Numerically speaking, they are the most important tribe in Afghanistan, and if he can but win them over without giving offence to their hereditary chieftains, his rule will have every chance of permanency. It is a delicate and difficult business, we admit, to retain the affections of these two great and hostile clans, but the Amer has shown so much ability during the last few months that some grounds are afforded for hoping that he will solve this problem to the satisfaction of all. He will now turn his thoughts to intrigue at Teheran. Most opportunely, Colonel Stewart was commissioned some six weeks ago to proceed to Kaf, a Persian town lying between Meshed and Herat, where he will be in a good position to obtain early intelligence.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SPEECHES.

The *Saturday Review* regards it as unfortunate that Mr. Gladstone's pledge that he would not propose an Irish Land Bill for England or Scotland would, if it became necessary, be explained away. The Farmers' Alliance Bill is at least as revolutionary as the Irish Land Bill, without any excuse for the scheme of spoliation which it contains:—

If it suited Mr. Gladstone's purpose to promote the transfer of property from the present owners to claimants who might command more votes, he could prepare in ten minutes a speech of two hours in which he would prove that the application to Great Britain of the three Acts was not made in conformity with the Irish precedent. His own prejudice against a class which includes extremely few of his supporters was strongly exhibited in his discussion of the question of local rating. In this, as in most other cases, Mr. Gladstone was two weights and measures for those whom he regards as friends or as adversaries. It was both unnecessary and unjust to censure the annexation of the Transvaal, as Mr. Gladstone's colleagues formally approved the transaction, while the leasehold on the subject of the Egyptian complications was probably discreet. Diplomacy, if it is to be successful, must be secret; and it is impossible to know where the reserve of the Government indicates a prudent resolve, or the absence of a definite policy.

FURTHER ARRESTS IN IRELAND.

THE LAND LEAGUE PROCLAIMED.

MILITARY PRECAUTIONS.

A special *Gazette* published in Dublin on Friday night, under the signature of Mr. Forster and the Lords Justices, declares that:—
"Whereas, in many parts of Ireland an organised system of intimidation is practised, whereby hundreds of her Majesty's subjects, under apprehension of violence to their persons or properties, or deprivation of the necessities of life, or loss of business, are coerced to give up their lawful employments, to abandon their lawful occupations, and to surrender the payment of rents lawfully due by them or the fulfilment of their lawful engagements, to become members of or subscribe to the funds of an association commonly known as the Land League, or to abstain from doing what they have a legal right to do, to abstain from doing, now we do hereby warn all persons that all such practices of intimidation are unlawful and criminal, and that any person engaging in any of such practices or inciting thereto is liable to be arrested and imprisoned."

A Dublin correspondent, writing on Friday night just before the publication of the *Gazette*, says:—Mr. Sexton, M.P., and Mr. Quinn, Secretary of the Land League, were arrested under the Coercion Act to-day, but owing to the total breakdown of telegraphic communication the news is almost unknown outside Dublin. Mr. Sexton was arrested at his lodgings, Upper Frederick-street, by Superintendent Mallon. When arrested he was ill in bed, and had just previously received a visit from Mr. Joseph Biggar, M.P. Mr. Sexton was taken to the hospital, but his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab. Mr. Quinn was arrested at his lodgings, in St. Vincent-street, in the morning, before he was out of bed. Mr. Quinn was taken to the hospital, but his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab. Mr. Quinn was arrested at his lodgings, in St. Vincent-street, in the morning, before he was out of bed. Mr. Quinn was taken to the hospital, but his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab.

Mr. Sexton's arrest was totally unexpected. On Thursday night he came from a sick bed to attend the League meeting, to discuss Parnell's arrest, but he was taken to the hospital, and his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab. Mr. Quinn was arrested at his lodgings, in St. Vincent-street, in the morning, before he was out of bed. Mr. Quinn was taken to the hospital, but his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab. Mr. Quinn was arrested at his lodgings, in St. Vincent-street, in the morning, before he was out of bed. Mr. Quinn was taken to the hospital, but his removal would endanger his health, so he was removed to Kilmainham in a cab.

A communication from another source dated Saturday, states:—The arrest of Mr. Arthur O'Connor will, it is expected, soon be accompanied by the arrest of Mr. John Quinn. Quinn was taken into custody, two members of the Detective Department called at the Imperial Hotel, Sackville-street, and asked whether Mr. Arthur O'Connor was inside. The reply was in the negative, and the detectives then left. Inquiries were made for the hon. member in other parts of the city, but without effect. It was rumoured that Mr. O'Connor, who succeeded Mr. Sexton as the principal organiser of the Land League, was actually paying a visit to Mr. Parnell at Kilmainham, and that he was expected to be there for some time.

A newspaper reporter who interviewed Mr. Parnell on Thursday in Kilmainham Gaol says Mr. Parnell's cell is on the ground floor, and is a small, dark apartment, having no furniture beyond a medium-sized table and two plain chairs. In reply to a question as to whether his arrest was likely to have any prejudicial effect upon the Land League movement, Mr. Parnell said he had contemplated the probability of the Government taking wholesale measures for the suppression of the League, and he did not think the Government contemplated the suppression of the League; they could only suppress it by arresting everybody connected with it, and that they would hardly do that. He further said that he supposed the Government could proceed by issuing a proclamation in the *Gazette* and seize the Land League offices as they did those of the Irish People in 1865; but if they did, the people would then be driven back upon secret meetings, as in former times, which would be much more dangerous to the Government than the present organisation, which is perfectly open. Mr. Parnell assured his visitor that all measures neces-

sary to guide and carry on the League had been arranged before his arrest, and that his presence, practically speaking, was not absolutely necessary any longer. He strongly urged the League to carry out the policy declared at the National Convention. He thought further arrests would follow his, but maintained that the League was a perfectly legal association. The Government was probably waiting to see how they could aim a blow at it. Mr. Parnell thought that, if the land question were settled, autonomy and every other question would settle itself, the existence of the landlord class in the country. He said that he intended to make application to be allowed to work in the carpenter's shop, which work he was fond of when a youth. Mr. Parnell's last words were:—"I shall take it as an evidence that the people of the country do not do their duty if I am speedily released."

A public meeting was held in the Rotunda at Dublin on Friday night to protest against Mr. Parnell's arrest. The hall was crowded, and fully twenty thousand people assembled outside unable to gain admittance. Sackville-street was patrolled by mounted police, and a force of about two hundred constables was stationed close to the Rotunda. Mr. Dawson, M.P., presided, and there were also present Mr. Dillon, M.P., Mr. Gray, M.P., Mr. P. D. Sullivan, M.P., Mr. Gill, M.P., Mr. Meigs, M.P., Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., and Mr. Biggar, M.P. The proceedings were very enthusiastic. Mr. Gray proposed a resolution condemning the arrest as one of the most arbitrary, lawless, and tyrannical acts that had ever disgraced the British Rule in Ireland. (Loud cheers, and shouts for "Irish Republic," and "No rent.") Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. Dillon, M.P., who denounced the arrest as the most outrageous yet inflicted on the Irish people, and said he would be greatly disappointed if it facilitated the payment of rents. (Cheers.)—The resolution was carried unanimously.—Mr. T. D. Sullivan then moved a resolution to pledge the people of Ireland to act on the advice given by Mr. Parnell.—Mr. Meigs, M.P., having seconded the resolution, it was passed. Other resolutions were adopted, and the proceedings concluded. The mob in the street behaved in a tumultuous manner and sang dispersed by the police. They were, however, dispersed by the police.

An elixir of Mr. Gladstone was dragged through the streets of Cork, followed by a hooting crowd, on Friday night. The shops were closed all day. Reports from all country districts are to the effect that the League is spreading rapidly, and that the Government action is denounced. In several instances farmers pledge themselves to pay no rent until Parnell is released.

Meetings are to be held in various parts of the country to denounce the arrests. At an indignation meeting held on Friday night in Galway a resolution was passed to the effect "that this one act would be sufficient to inspire us with a lasting hatred of the minister in Ireland, if that had not been already impressed on our minds by centuries of wrong; and instead of this unwarrantable arrest having the effect of daunting us into lessening our confidence in the Land League it will make us more bold and determined in our action, and more confident in the triumph of the cause advocated by the League."

The *Irish World* says:—"The arrest has incensed the Irish race in America. Mr. Gladstone's latest revealed as the most vindictive and hypocritical of all the measures dealt with. Never was Mr. Parnell more the throne of Ireland than now. Evidently Mr. Gladstone is determined upon goading Ireland into premature insurrection. It is hard for the face of such a charge to be Irishmen, but it is more the duty of the Irish to exhibit the virtues of self-possession, discipline, and obedience to the Land League than never. Never did the Land League have a better opportunity to manifest its moral power. The English Ministry now assails Ireland through the Land League. Fortunately for Ireland's cause, she has a base of operations this side of the Atlantic from which the enemy cannot drive her. It is in the power of every Irishman to make the base of operations more effective. Gather round the Land League standard; fill up its branches, and furnish its treasury with the sinews of war."

Mr. Bart, M.P., and Mr. Ashton Dilke, M.P., on Friday night at a political meeting at Newcastle. Mr. Bart said he voted against coercion, although there was some reason for it; but if we were to have men imprisoned without trial the Government could not have a stronger justification than in Mr. Parnell's case. They might have expected every patriotic Irishman to give the Land Act a fair trial. Mr. Ashton Dilke expressed entire concurrence with these views. He entered Parliament with the best feelings towards Ireland, and he was disappointed to find that it was impossible to work with them.

STRANGE DISCOVERY.—The dead body of a lad, aged ten years, named Charles Nurse, who resided with his mother at No. 1, Charles Buildings, St. Martin's-lane, has been found in an iron dust-bin in Taylor's Buildings, Bedford-row, a narrow lane in the rear of the fire-engine station in Charles-street. The bin was found to be full of water, and the body was found floating in it. The lad was found to be about three feet in length, and three feet wide, and was principally composed of holding the refuse from the work-shops and factory of Messrs. Benham and Froude, brass and copper smiths. The lad was found to be about three feet in length, and three feet wide, and was principally composed of holding the refuse from the work-shops and factory of Messrs. Benham and Froude, brass and copper smiths.

RIOTS AT REDHILL.—A Redhill correspondent, writing on Wednesday, says:—"Serious riots are prevalent here. The occasion is the arrival of the students of Mr. Jarman's military college on one hand, and the townspeople on the other. The origin of the difference dates from two months back, when some of the students were accused by a son of the ex-Mayor, Alderman Lambert, by insulting a lady in the street, and a sense of feeling has prevailed ever since. Last Sunday a few students were met by young Lambert and a companion named Miles, the son of a local fishmonger, when the quarrel was renewed and a stand-up fight arranged. The quarrel is reported to have ended in a victory for the students, and the townspeople are now determined to take the matter into their own hands. The students were surrounded by a crowd, including some respectable tradesmen among them, for purposes of remonstrance. The rougher portion of the crowd, however, began to take the matter into their own hands, and the students were hoisted, pursued, and freely stoned as they came back to the college. Mr. Jarman in vain appealed to the crowd to disperse. Stones were thrown, windows broken, and a few wounds inflicted on the heads of the inmates. Eventually the excited crowd dispersed; but on Tuesday night, two students being seen in the town, the disturbances were renewed. The young men were hunted along the streets, and seeking refuge in various shops and taverns were denied admittance. For several hours the mob kept the streets, waiting for more students to appear, and at length betook themselves to the college, which for some time was held in a state of siege."

TERRIFIC GALE IN ENGLAND.

ACCIDENTS AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Early on Friday morning a gale of great force was experienced in the metropolis. The wind was accompanied by heavy showers of rain, and the Thames was lashed into a perfect sea by the wind, the spray flying in dense showers over the piers and the craft at anchor. Great damage was done in all directions by the blowing down of chimneys, roofs, walls, trees, and portions of newly erected buildings. In Old Burlington-street a public-house was blown down. A shop in the Haymarket sustained such severe damage that the police were stationed around it to prevent any one coming near the building until steps were taken to make it safe. In Charles-street, Westminster-road, the front of a baker's shop was blown in. About 7.30 a.m., at the new goods station at the Great Eastern Railway in course of erection in Shoreditch, a massive gable of brickwork and stone, weighing several tons, fell with a tremendous crash, bringing down some scaffolding, which about thirty men had just quitted, owing to the heavy rain. The passengers in an omnibus which was passing at the time also had a narrow escape.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* of Friday says:—About half-past eight o'clock this morning a serious accident occurred in Regent-street. The wind blew from the roof of the library adjoining the Polytechnic a piece of wood, which, in falling, struck a projecting window, and brought down with a loud crash a shower of glass, some of which fell upon the head of a young man who was passing and injured him severely. About ten o'clock a cabman, while standing on the rank opposite the George Inn, Haverstock-hill, was killed by a tall tree which was suddenly blown down upon him. A policeman on duty and a constable were also injured. A horse and carriage belonging to the name of Thomas Wright, aged fifty-five, of Lisimore-road, Kentish-town, at the Victoria station a shoeblack was blown off the pavement under the wheels of a cab which was passing, and sustained such severe injuries that he had to be removed to the hospital by the police. At the corner of Wych-street and Newcastle-street, Strand, without, however, doing any injury to passers-by.

The storm appears to have been very general throughout the country. In Windsor Great Park many of the old trees were uprooted, and other damage done. At Oxford several of the trees in Broad Walk have been destroyed. In the Bristol Channel the heavy gale has been in much danger, but no serious casualties are reported. At Swansea several of the triumphal arches erected in preparation for the Royal visit next week have been torn up by the wind, and now lie on the ground a ruined mass. The roads are strewn with fallen trees, and the shipping in the harbour has also suffered, and several vessels have been driven ashore.

A message from Bishop's Stortford states that as the Great Eastern express from Cambridge approached Shelford on Friday morning a large tree, weighing about 50 cwt., was blown down and fell across the line. Every effort was made to stop the train, but without success, until the engine and several carriages had cut through the obstacle. Happily the train did not leave the rails, and a number of passengers escaped unhurt. The tree was blown down at Shelford, and the train was delayed for some time. At Towbridge station, as a fast train from Bristol to Salisbury was coming, a pair of trucks suddenly disappeared. The wind was so strong that it blew the trucks off the rails, but fortunately, with considerable effort, the driver of the engine was able to pull up in time to prevent what would have been a serious accident. A telegram from Royston states that a shooting saloon which had been attending the pleasure party of the Duke of Devonshire, and which was blown over by the gale in the Royston district. Two boys were in the car, and one of them was badly hurt. At Cambridge a large window at the town hall was blown in, and trees in the College grounds blown down. The gale has done considerable damage at Brighton in various parts of the town. Many of the shops on the sea-front remain closed.

A correspondent at Oxford says:—A perfect hurricane from the west and north is raging here. Although chimneys-pots, tiles, and hundreds of trees have been blown down in large numbers, no serious damage has been done. A Birmingham correspondent writes:—"A terrible gale of wind prevailed in Birmingham on Friday morning, and great damage was done to property. The roof of a chapel was blown in, and several tradesmen had their large plate glass windows wrecked, and part of the roof of the county court fell with a terrible crash. Fortunately the court was not sitting. The roofs of many houses are almost entirely stripped. Several persons are believed to be injured, and large numbers of trees blown down. Lloyd's agent at Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, says:—"On Thursday night, about ten o'clock, it came on to blow a strong south-westerly gale, and to newly a hurricane, and still continues thick, occasionally with rain. The South-Western Company's steamer *Fannie*, with the mails and passengers from Southampton for Guernsey and Jersey, was compelled to anchor here and remain."

The sea is unusually high, the waves breaking over the Capstone Pier. A block of buildings in course of erection has been demolished, and a number of windows and doors blown in. Several persons who ventured on the parade were thrown down by the waves, and received serious injuries. A vessel observed off Bull Point was driven on a shoal, and it is feared that she has foundered. Many vessels in harbour broke from their moorings, and boats were washed away. According to a message from Lloyd's correspondent at Yarmouth, on Friday morning, it was blowing a whole gale from the west-north-west. The Cornwall steamer had been sighted from the station, putting back through stress of weather.

A Lytham correspondent states that a perfect hurricane has swept over that coast from the south-west. The sea was exceedingly rough, and most of the small craft lying at anchor have been swamped. No loss of life has been reported. The gale had abated on Friday evening.

Shortly before one o'clock on Friday the secretary of the General Post Office wrote to the directors of the gale telegraphic communication with all parts is much interrupted. There will be delay upon the news traffic. The delay at Newmarket races to-day will, it is feared, be very great."

The full force of the gale was experienced at Blackheath from its exposed position. The dust blew across the Common with extraordinary fury, against which it was impossible at times to make headway. Many trees in the gardens bordering the heath were blown down, and in Greenwich Park huge trees were torn up by their roots and boughs were strewn in all directions. At Greenwich parish church the force of the wind stopped the clock, and much damage was done in the town by falling tiles and chimney pots.

the spot, and, under the direction of the fireman, set to work to clear away the debris. After the lapse of half an hour they succeeded in finding the body of the unfortunate lad Nobes, which was fearfully mutilated. The injured persons were liberated as soon as possible, and were at once conveyed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The names of the injured are as follows:—Rosie Tyler, head injured and much knocked about; Henry Wicks, head and face cut about; Jane Cross, aged 19, dislocated arm and cut; Maria Godfrey, aged 17, dislocated shoulder and other injuries to the head and body; Charlotte Mullen, aged 24, dislocated shoulder; Ann Cooper, aged 31, injuries to the head and body. The injuries received by Rosie Tyler are of such a serious nature that the house surgeon entertains little hope of her recovery. The brick shaft was an old and substantial one and bolted with strong iron bands, and was calculated to have been capable of containing a large quantity of material, and tending against almost any weather. The body of the lad Nobes was removed to the St. Luke's Mortuary, where it awaits an inquest. A body of constables was soon upon the scene of the accident, and under the direction of Inspector Malley rendered assistance in keeping the approaches to the foundry clear.

The *Evening Standard* in a special edition on Friday night says:—"This morning, at about half-past seven o'clock, an accident of an alarming character happened at the new goods station in course of erection in Shoreditch, belonging to the Great Eastern Railway Company. It seems that at the time mentioned, when the gale was at its height, a loud crash was heard proceeding from the north side of the immense structure, and was ascertained by persons who were hastily on the spot that one of the massive gables, composed of brickwork, and comprising many tons of material, had given way to the force of the wind, and fallen outwards, nothing remaining but the iron casings of the windows. The brickwork was only fixed yesterday, and three or four men would have been engaged upon the scaffold "pointing" the work, but for a heavy shower of rain that fell just at the time. As it was, there was not a living soul in close proximity. Had there been any men on the scaffold they would hardly have escaped with life, as the lowest fall they could possibly have had would have been 40 feet, and might have been a hundred. The massive scaffold-poles were snapped like greenwood, and a small portion of the broken gable, together with some bricks, fell outwards across the railway company's roadway and over a parapet 50 feet high into the street. The passengers on one of the Old Ford omnibuses also had a narrow escape, for the vehicle had not passed the spot when the gale struck, minute when the space it had just occupied was covered with pieces of timber and masses of bricks and mortar. The debris was speedily cleared away out of the road, and nothing remains to be seen of what might have proved a serious catastrophe but some scattering heaps of rubbish, a dismantled building, and two railway trucks, which stood under the falling mass, and are nearly knocked to pieces. The exact amount of wall that fell was 50 cubic yards, and since then the contractors, Messrs. Vernon and Evans, have knocked down a similar quantity, which they considered to be in a dangerous state. No further fall is feared."

The *Evening Standard* of Saturday says:—"The severe gale which burst over the country during the latter part of Thursday night and the greater part of yesterday, caused the loss of several lives, inflicting great damage to property on land and amongst the shipping on the coast, and to some extent a general derangement of business. The inland telegraphic service was considerably delayed, owing to a large portion of the wires having been blown down or otherwise injured, whilst other foreign news is curtailed in consequence of still greater damage to the land lines in some parts of the Continent. There was no very long warning of the approach of this gale. The barometer in the early portion of Thursday had shown a slight tendency to rise, but about six o'clock the tendency took a turn, and from that time there was a rapid fall every hour until nearly noon yesterday, when there was a difference of nearly an inch in the column of mercury as compared with the same hour of the previous day. After that there was a short period during which the barometer remained steady, and from that time onwards to an early hour this morning the rise was nearly as rapid as the previous fall had been."

Professor Stone, of the Radcliffe Observatory, at Oxford, says that the wind began to blow on Thursday, at eight p.m., from the south-south-east, and, increasing in force, veered to south-south-west at ten p.m. It was then blowing a violent gale, and its strength remained nearly constant till three p.m. yesterday. Since that time it has been gradually abating, its direction being due west. The maximum hourly wind was 65 miles between one and two p.m., representing a pressure of 42lb. on the square foot. During the noted storm on January 18 the maximum hourly wind was 76 miles, with a pressure of nearly 58lb. on the square foot. The horizontal movement from 8 a.m. yesterday to six p.m. was 643 miles. The barometer fell 0.8 inch between noon of Thursday and eight a.m. on Friday, and has since been making rapid recovery. Over half an inch of rain fell in Oxford during the night.

Great damage was done in every direction of the metropolis, in the parks, and on the Embankment, by the uprooting of trees; in the streets by the blowing down of hoardings and the demolition of partly built houses, and shops, and old buildings. Several chimneys, causing loss of life; while the casualties to limbs were numerous. The bed of the Thames was laid almost bare at low water, and the steamboats were unable to run.

The gale unroofed the Mill-hill Station of the Great Northern Railway, blew the slates in all directions, but fortunately doing no further injury.

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A temporary building on the jetty at the Cannon Carriage Factory, Woolwich Arsenal, was carried away by the wind, and some men working a crane below had a narrow escape. A heavy chimney stack at the office of the Ordnance Select Committee was blown over, seriously damaging part of the building and endangering the officials. Large trees on Woolwich Common were destroyed, and part of a house near Old Plumstead Post-office was blown down. A long wall, built to resemble a fortress, at the summit of Sandy Hill, and enclosing the garden of the Fort Tavern, was levelled, and much other injury was done to property in the neighbourhood.

Reports from various parts of the coast report disasters to shipping during the gale of Friday. A vessel was lost off Bangor with all hands. At Shields a pilot boat was swamped and three men were drowned. Gallant rescues of imperilled crews by the boats of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution are reported. Many vessels are missing, and it is feared the loss of life has been very serious. A message received in Liverpool announces that during the height of the gale the Liverpool steamer *Cyprian*, was totally wrecked, and that of her crew, which would number between 30 and 40 persons, only eight are saved. The *Cyprian* sailed for Genoa on Thursday, and was owned by Leyland and Co., of Liverpool.

PRICE 40 CENTIMS

pany drill and musketry practice. Neither do I think it very practical to teach the cadets tactics and military history. It is surely letting them run before they can walk, and tactical instruction would be infinitely more profitable *after* joining a regiment.

Mrs. Foxpaw said to a friend a few days ago, "That poor dear Mr. Green is still in gaol! I am so sorry for him, and do sympathise with him so much. Of course, my dear, considering my husband's position, can't subscribe publicly to his Preference Fund but I have made up my mind what to do—shall send him an anonymous cheque!"

Branch offices:—LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

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THE POLICE NOTICE.

LAND LEAGUE MANIFESTO.

The experiment of making some concession

more paltry mitigation of the horrors of landlordism in order to fasten it the more securely upon the necks of the people, that the tenant-farmers should not be delivered blindfold into the hands of hostile law courts, but should be able to fall back upon the magnanimity of the Government for redress, while there remained a shadow of respect for law—and supported with unparalleled enthusiasm by the whole Irish race, that moved the rage of the disappointed English Minister. Upon the monstrous pretext that the National Land League was an organization of lawless tenant-farmers—an organization which made them all powerful and was keeping them by intimidation from embracing an Act which offered them nothing except helplessness and uncertainty—the English Government has ordered the arrest of Mr. Parnell, for the sake of justice, and has plunged into an open reign of terror in order to destroy by the foulest means an organization which was confessedly too strong for it within the limit of its own English Constitution. Blow after blow has been dealt the Irish people, and the more wantonness of brute force. In the face of provocation, which has turned men to flame, the Executive of the Land League adhere calmly and steadily to the course traced them by the national convention. Test cases, with their stinging character were, with great labour, put in train for adjudication in the Land Court. Even the arrest of our President, Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell, and the excited state of the popular feeling, which it evoked, did not induce the Executive to waver, or to flinch the slightest from that course, for Mr. Parnell's arrest might have been accounted for by motives of personal malice, and his removal did not altogether derange the machinery for the preparation of the test cases. The Government has endeavoured to perfect. But the events which have since occurred—the seizure or attempted seizure of almost all the members of the Executive and of the chief officials of the League upon wild and preposterous pretences, and the violent suppression of free speech—put it beyond any power of the Government to carry out its Government, unable to declare the Land League an illegal association, defeated in the attempt to break its unity, and afraid to abide the result of test cases watched over by a powerful popular organization, has deliberately resolved to destroy the whole system, and to render the National Land League, the central organization with a view to rendering an experimental trial of the Act impossible and forcing it upon the Irish tenant farmers on the Government's own terms. The brutal and arbitrary disposition of the central Executive has so far succeeded that we are obliged to acquiesce in our own tyranny, and to possess the machinery for adequately presenting the test cases in Court according to the policy prescribed by the National Convention. Mr. Gladstone has, by a series of furious and wanton acts of despotism, driven the Irish tenant-farmers to the point of petitioning the Government and the mercy of his lawyers—between the power which has reduced landlordism to almost its last gasp and the power which strives, with all the ferocity of despotism, to restore the detestable ascendancy from which the Land League has delivered the Irish people. The only national weapon now remains in the hands of the Irish National Land League. It is the strongest, the swiftest, the most irresistible of all. We hesitate to advise our fellow-countrymen to employ it until the savage lawlessness of the English Executive has brought us to a crisis in which we must either consent to see the Irish tenant-farmers deprived of their organization and laid once more prostrate at the feet of the landlords, and every murmur of Irish public opinion suppressed with an anathema, or, on the other hand, to be forced at once resort to the only means now left in their hands of bringing this false and brutal Government to its senses. Fellow-countrymen, the hour to try your souls and to redeem your pledges has arrived. The Executive of the National Land League, forced to absolute ruin, now appeals to you. It feels bound to advise the tenant-farmers of Ireland to pay no rents under any circumstances to their landlords until the Govern-

Although it was armed on behalf of the Farmers' Alliance at its last meeting that it has carefully abstained from borrowing the provisions of the Irish Land Act, and the draft bill it has approved and the objections it has raised, the speaker endeavoured to show that the essential principle of the Irish Act dominates the proposed legislation for England :—

relinquishes the existing system of terrorism and restores the constitutional rights of the people. We do not want to see the rights of your leaders. Your fathers abolished tithes by the same methods without any leaders at all, and with scarcely a shadow of a political religion. We do not want any portion of Ireland to-day. Do not let yourselves be intimidated by threats of military violence. It is as lawful to refuse to pay rents as it is to receive them. Against the payment of rents, the entire revolutionary military power has no weapons. Do not be wheedled into compromise of any sort by the dread of eviction. If you only act together in the way we have shown, you will find you have countless times pledged your vows, you can no more evict a whole nation than they can imprison them. The funds of the National Land League will be poured out for the support of the poor who will endure eviction in the course of the struggle. Our exiled brothers in America may be relied upon to contribute, if necessary, as many thousands to startle out landlordism and bring

The first question which arises after reading this audacious document is, How were the signatures procured? It has been already stated that there has been from the first a breach of the League in the prison, and there has been a constant correspondence between the prisoners with each other. The addition of Messrs. Parnell, Sexton, O'Kelly, and Dillon, with Mr. Quinn, the secretary, made the correspondence complete, and there has been abundant opportunity for consulting the policy to be adopted under the altered circumstances of their position. But how did such a document get out of the gaol? Who procured the signatures? It is not probable that the signatures of the suspects in Kilmalmain, out of Davitt the recommitment convict in Portland? It may be left to the prison authorities to conjecture an explanation of this mysterious "man in the moon" who alone can shed light upon it. The transaction proves conclusively that the "horors of the Bassinills" on which orators enlarged, were only a figment of the imagination, and that the law and order, discredited, and the elaborate code of regulations treated with contempt.

The disorderly conduct in the streets of Dublin was renewed this evening. It began by parties of street urchins falling in and marching up and down Sackville-street singing songs and shouting from the windows of the houses throwing stones. Fresh additions were made after each performance to their numbers, and they carried on the same kind of warfare with the police, dispersing when charged, and then collecting again. Fresh swarms to renew the same misbehaving practice and their audacity increased as they found they could baffle their opponents. They smashed a window of the post-office about half-past 8 and then proceeded to smash the windows and windows in Sackville-street. They also broke the large clock in Chancellor's, the watch-maker's, at the corner of the street near the Central Bridge, and the windows of several other houses. A large force of police then arrived, and the rioters made a dash for it, and ran down Sackville-street through Westmoreland-street into College-green and Dame-street. Being there pressed by the police, from College-green they filed off down the bystreets leading to the quays in order to get back into Sackville-street. The police then followed them, and when chosen as the battlefield on account of its width, which makes it very difficult for the police to cope with a large mob. The contest is still going between the belligerents, and the broken lamps and windows testify to its

destructive character.

Before the meeting of the Land Leaguers was held last evening at Donnybrook, at which the chairman, a clever young man, delivered a speech, in the course of which he spoke to this effect:—"The voice of the tongue has failed; the voice of the pen has failed." The voice of the pen has failed, because it is ruling, or misruling, us, will not listen to their voice, but now the time is near at hand when we shall no longer make our demand for justice and liberty with either, but with that potent weapon which seldom fails—the sword. We have seen the time come before us to see our ardent hopes realized in the formation of an Irish Republic." This spirited address was loudly applauded.

Behind all the confusion and tumult which has been going on in the County of Wick, the Government on the forces of the Land League, preparations are calmly proceeding for the opening of the Land Court on Thursday, and, notwithstanding all that has been urged to the contrary, the Government of the County Commissioners will have plenty to do with the large number of applications to fix rents have been received, as well as for the sale of properties. The settled purpose of the Land League to discard the Act and make it appear worthless to the Government, has been the subject of test cases which they have prepared, which contains almost exclusively those in which the rent is no higher and in many instances much lower—in one case 25 per cent.—than the farmer's valuation. The Commissioners will be bound to give a ruling on the rent, either leave it unchanged or raise it, and then the agitators will represent the Act as not only useless but injurious. In connection with the fixing of rent, it should be stated that the Government have been very anxious that which has obtained some currency that Lord Waterford had applied to raise the rent in the case of some of his tenants.

The Home Secretary has been in communication with the Flintshire Court of Quarter Sessions regarding adequate protection for Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden Castle. On Tuesday the chairman of the court, Mr. John Jones, was asked to apply for the appointment of four additional constables. There had been a correspondence between the Home Secretary and the Chief Constable of Flintshire regarding the safety of Mr. Gladstone, and the court had decided that Hawarden Castle was not sufficiently protected. The Home Secretary strictly enjoining that all necessary precautions were to be taken. Under those circumstances he applied for the appointment of four constables to be permanently stationed at Hawarden Castle, and the court decided that they would be defrayed by Government. It was absolutely necessary for the well-being of Mr. Gladstone that he should receive additional protection. It would be a disgrace to the Government if they did not do this, and nothing were to be permitted to befall the Premier for want of efficient protection. A magistrate observed that the protection was not being afforded at the ratepayers' expense to a Member of Parliament, and that it was the duty of the Minister of England. The court unanimously endorsed the application.

(FROM THE "MORNING POST.")

We have reason to believe that the Porte, in allowing the Turkish Commissioners to leave Cairo the object of their mission being at an end, accepted as satisfactory the declarations of England on the presence of an ironclad at Alexandria.

We have reason to believe that the interview between the Emperor Francis Joseph and King Humbert will take place at the beginning of next month. It is considered significant that a resolution of so important a character should have been taken at Vienna before a successor to the late Baron Haymerle had been appointed.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The military authorities at the War Office are making the necessary arrangements for the landing of a complete Army Corps in Ireland should the situation assume a more unsettled aspect. General Sir Thomas Steele, the Commander in Chief in Ireland, is, however, of opinion that the Brigade of Infantry which is being despatched from England will be sufficient to meet all existing requirements.

Owing to the vast amount of extra work entailed by the present situation in Ireland, the War Office is considering the propriety of increasing the Staff of General Sir Thomas Steele, and a number of experienced officers are, we understand, likely to be sent over for temporary service until affairs assume a more settled aspect.

We understand that it has been finally decided that General Sir Charles Elice, whose term of service as Adjutant General to the Forces expires on the 1st proximo, shall continue in his appointment until the 1st of April next, when he will retire, and be succeeded most probably by Lieutenant General Sir Garnet Wolseley.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

On the 26th the Lord Mayor entertains the members of the Royal Academy at the Mansion House.

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce have made complaint to the Government of the "excessively and unnecessarily high" fares

rates on the Indian guaranteed railways—especially for the carriage of grain. The Governor in Council, however, has declined to lower them, on the ground that they are considerably below the maximum.

The Madras papers state that the Government of India is taking active steps by communication with the Secretary of State to procure the remission of what is considered the needless quarantine imposed on steamers approaching Suez *via* Aden.

(FROM "TRUTH")

During the past shooting season the "bag" of game obtained by the Duke of Hamilton and his household in Arran amounted to about 6,300. There is, of course, an enormous number of hares, rabbits, and black game, and two or three stags. The Duke's shooting model game preserve, which is situated twenty miles long and twelve broad and all the wretched tenants being as absolutely at the mercy of their landlord as though they were serfs among the Steppes. To judge of the Duke's shooting, we need only refer to the fact that he has been so long a sportsman that he has been obliged to send to the Duke, they seem to have been crushed into a truly satisfactory state of submissiveness, which, however, savours more of the sixteenth century than the nineteenth. Possibly his Grace may find even the Scotch laws and laws undergoing a little transformation when he returns from his Mediterranean cruise.

The finest stag of the season, in Scotland, was killed about ten days ago, by Colonel Dornier, in Lochiel's forest at Achnacroix, near Perth. It had most magnificent antlers, four feet long, and the deer was so fat that the men were well able to stand within the tips of the antlers. At the other end of the county, Lord Stanhope, the other day, shot a stag of 19st. 10lb. in the Sir Greville Smyth one on the island of Dalnabreck.

Lord Bandon's fine rack of other-hounded dogs was being hunted during the past fortnight along the Glenafrick rivers. The party consisted of Lord and Lady Bandon, Lord and Lady Ladbary, Captain Dunscombe, Generer Hamilton, Mrs. and Miss Hamilton, Captain Lawless, and about a dozen others. Amidst the picturesque uniform costume of red and dark blue worn by the hunting party proper, the Nebraska blouse to the Bavarian hat and feather, while exclamations in Italian, French, German, and purest Yankee (not to mention polished Gaelic), mingled with the loud cries of "Get him out! get him out!" from the hunters. The rivers of the Glenafrick district

riot about with otters, for the simple reason that the animals are perfectly safe there, and as the wiles of even such experienced hunters as Lord Baudon and his party. The pools are so deep and so long that the otters are perfectly safe. The otters are not only swimming with foliage beautiful to the artistic eye, are provocative of explosives from an enthusiastic otter-hunter. Several animals were found and hunted every day, but they succeeded in getting away, this, however, did not prevent the otters from being shot. Amongst the most reckless in dash through fords and rapids was Mr. A. Sullivan, whom the newspapers, six or seven weeks ago, announced to be dead, or dying. I don't know what other people feel we have to go out of their way to their heads in charge of two or three female servants, with burglars about his hands. I don't know quite what I find myself, even if I arm myself with a six-shooter, stay at home. The strong man arm-keeping is good, but it is a big figure and a good approach. If he dare not without giving warning—the burglar is not particular. He dare not shoot him before gets into the house, and when he has got the burglar shoots first. I have no hesitation in saying that the law is not adequate, and that unless your fire-armed burglar severely flogged, put into long penal servitude, or sent to a suburban neighbourhood will be safe.

Considering the amount of discussion the subject of smoking carriages in railway trains, some one might surely have suggested to the companies the comfort it would be to the passengers if the smoking compartment were placed in each smoking compartment a double floor, the upper being of open metal work constructed on the principle of those of the fashioned grate pans which conceal the fire which pass through their oblique interstices.

The season promises to be unusually so in attractive books. Mr. John Morley is expected to publish a Golden Year which is expected to be a success. Mr. John Morley is expected to publish a Golden Year which is expected to be a success. Mr. John Morley is expected to publish a Golden Year which is expected to be a success.

BALMORAL, TUESDAY

The Queen and Princess Beatrice walked yesterday morning. In the afternoon Majesty and Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Churchill, drove to Birkhall to honour Mr. and Mrs. Standish with a visit. Prince Leopold drove out, attended by Captain Waller. The Right Hon. Sir William Vernon Harcourt, M.P., has arrived at Castle as Minister in attendance on Majesty, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family.

Amid great public rejoicings and enthu-

the Prince of Wales on Tuesday open at Swansea the new dock, which is intended to afford greater shipping accommodation than that port. The dock is twenty-three acres in extent, and will, it is expected, be ready for the reception of vessels in the course of a few months. The Royal carriage left Singleton about twelve o'clock, the first important event being the reception at the Pavilion situated at the top of Walter-road. The carriage contained the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Beaufort, and the Hon. Viscountess Grey. On alighting, the Prince was presented with a magnificent bouquet of flowers by the mayor's daughter. The Town Clerk read the address of the corporation, in reply to which

portion, in reply to which, the Prince of Wales and I have received your thanks with much satisfaction, and we thank warmly for the hearty welcome you have offered to us on behalf of the loyal subjects of Great Britain and Ireland. I can assure you, no little pleasure to be to visit your Principality, from which it is the oldest and proudest of my titles, and I am in my power to do so on the present occasion, when I come to take a prominent part in the ceremony of your great anniversary to the future of your ancient monarchy. I have always been interested in children with a sincere desire to emulate the bright example that was set them by my lamented father, who ever showed the deepest anxiety to make his children the happiness of the community. I venture express a hope that the lesson thus taught me has not been thrown away. I can pray I may continually be imbued with similar feelings, and that I may be enabled to perform the duty I am called to fulfil. Your words of devotion to the Queen and of attachment to the Crown

the members of the Royal family will be fully appreciated by her Majesty, and I will not fail to make known to her the sentiments by which you are animated.

The Royal *cortège* then resumed the journey towards the docks, the street being crowded all along the line of route, whilst the decorations were most profuse. In the street, the Lord Mayor, the Lord Alderman-road" their Royal Highnesses summoned to the carriage two Welsh guards dressed in the national costume with the tall sugar-loaf hats, and the Princess spoke some words of encouragement to the Welsh Guards, amused at their quaint appearance. Here the Freemasons' Society address was presented. The Prince made a suitable reply, and the procession then moved, amidst deafening cheers, to the High-street, where the *Windsor* docks, which were reached shortly before one o'clock. Here the Royal party embarked on the yacht *Lynx*, which proceeded seaward towards the harbour entrance and bay, the reaching of which was signalled by the firing of the guns of the *Windsor* docks. The Prince and the Princess were greeted with a third address. The Royal party then descended into the lock and inspected the masonry gates, and machinery, after which the Prince lifted a salute and admired the fine view of the docks, and the *Princess of Wales's Dock*. A luncheon afterwards took place, followed by a march past of volunteers after which the Royal party returned to St. James's Palace, where the Mayor's ball at the Music Hall in the evening.

At the Chapel Royal, Savoy, on Tuesday the Earl of St. Germans was married to the Hon. Emily Labouchere, youngest daughter of the late Lord Taunton. The bride was accompanied by Mr. Cyril Ponsonby as best man. The bride came with Lady Taunton, and on her arrival was received by Count Arthur E. A. Ellis, her brother-in-law. The bridesmaids were Miss Mary Ponsonby, Miss Bertha Ellis, Miss Alice Ellis, and Miss Nora Labouchere. The bride wore a Princess dress of cream-coloured brocade, trimmed with ivory, white satin and Brussels lace, and over a wreath a Brussels lace veil fastened by diamond marguerites, the gift of the bridegroom. She also wore a diamond rivière as earrings, the bridegroom's gift. The bridesmaids wore dresses of cream-coloured tulle trimmed with lace, blue sashes, stockings and shoes, and sapphire blue toques surrounded by cream ostrich feathers. Each wore a gold bangle set with precious stones, the bridegroom's present. The bridesmaids wore gaily choral. The bride was given away by Lady Taunton, her stepmother.

Captain Adams, of the Dundee whaler *Arctic*, who has just returned from the Davis Strait fishing, furnishes some interesting information in regard to the capture of the Polar seals. He states that in the course of his search for whales he went up Wellington Channel as far as the water has ever been penetrated by any expedition, and his further progress was only checked by encounter with the ice. The last sighting of a whale occurred in August last. No whales were seen in that quarter, and the *Arctic* steamed up Barrow Straits till the Polar barrier was encountered a second time. A course was then taken down Peel Sound to within a few miles of the great "bar" of ice, and the locality of Beachy Island was visited, and there Captain Adams saw the monument erected by Sir John Franklin and five of his crew. In the vicinity of the monument the victuaries were in a wretched condition, and the provisions were so scarce that the crew were almost all serviceable. Accompanied by a few Eskimos and his men he made some search in the locality, and just as the party were coming away they were confronted by a Polar bear, which Captain Adams shot within a few minutes of the great "bar" of ice. He intends to present to some of the relatives of Sir John Franklin. No whales were seen in this direction and accordingly the *Arctic* proceeded up towards the Gulf of Boothia. An attempt was made to reach this sea earlier in the year, but no advance was possible owing to the ice. The *Arctic* was not in the harbor, the ice was in a totally different condition, and the *Arctic* got up as far as Cape Nordenskjold on the west side of the Boothia. Here several whales were seen. Before coming away the captain tried to go up the river, but the ice was too strong, and when it cleared away the ship was found within 15 miles of Fury and Hecla Straits, and in very shallow water. In this district the captain got on board a very intelligent Esquimaux, from whom he obtained some good details of the capture of the Polar seals. The native stated that when he was a young man in his father's but three years came over the land towards Repulse he and that one of them was a good captain when he died. The other was in more distress and cried very much for help. The latter was a very good captain. These two lived some little time

his father's hut, and he showed Captain Adams the spot on a chart where they were buried. The Esquimaux, continuing the narrative, said that 17 persons started from the ship on the 10th of September, westward, but only three were able to give the journey to his father's hut. From all the information furnished by the Esquimaux, Captain Adams has no doubt that the vessels referred to were those of the expedition mentioned by the Esquimaux captain mentioned was Lieutenant Crozier. Assuming that what the Esquimaux stated was correct, it is beyond doubt that the members of the Franklin Expedition were attacked by the natives on the 10th of September from the present age of the native, Captain Adams is of opinion that his allusion to having seen the men when he was a young man, must refer to a period some 35 years ago. It was Captain Adams's intention of bringing the bodies to the surface, but resistance occurred which prevented the resolution being carried out, but he was in a position to furnish information of a very detailed nature and calculated to throw considerable light on the movements of the expedition, and the progress of the Franklin Expedition. Captain Adams brings home a few papers found in the vicinity of Fury and Hecla Straits, and they have been forwarded to the Admiralty. We in those high latitudes have not been able to find it possible in navigation to find his vessel. He was without charts, and his compasses were practically of no use and did not indicate the course steered. He was unable to guide his ship through these waters, and the fog, which was very dense, and sharp look-out, and when the fogs, which were exceedingly prevalent, cleared away, always took the opportunity of ascertaining the position of his ship by the sun. Captain Adams has given frequent proof of his deep knowledge of the Arctic regions, and he remembered that some 25 years ago Captain Markham, of the Royal Navy, who he commanded in Sir George Nares's expedition accompanied him to the Polar Seas. He was also fortunate in being able to recall the American expedition under Captain Hall, which brought to Dundee some 25 members of

SUICIDE OF A DOCTOR.—Dr. John Sarg of Salford, committed suicide on Sunday taking prussic acid. He had been visiting a woman with whom he was intimate, where he remained from Sunday eve until Tuesday night, drinking heavily. Making that it would be a nice place to in, he swallowed the contents of a bottle of prussic acid, fell to the ground and died.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

LONDON, OCTOBER 19-20, 1881.

MR. GLADSTONE'S TASK

MISS ANNA PARNELL.

THE NEW REGIMENTAL DESIGNATIONS.—We understand that the existing arrangement, by which regiments are known by territorial designations, has resulted in so much confusion, that Mr. Childers is to be most strongly recommended to return to the old system of numbers, the present plan being found to be quite unsuited to an army such as ours, which is not permanently located in the district from which it takes its name, and one battalion of which is always on foreign service. In India, especially, the confusion is very great.—*Standard*.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Standard* writing on Wednesday says:

the new law, say they—that remarkable
unprecedented device for conciliating as
the Government, and the reaction of the
Congress, how criminal was the neglect,
guilt, that suffered those operations so late
to go on unimpeded! Where was the states-
manship or foresight or common-sense
in looking towards the creation of
Michael Davitt week by week and month
and month, to such perfection that, with him
about him, in public or in secret, it is now
a wonder if it were a wound-up clock? The Con-
stitution had been held, its Resolutions, by
uninterrupted speeches, and on all possible
occasions, had been enforced on the popular
imagination; all discoverable defects in the
work had been found, the last “test-case” had
been selected, and not till then, when men
of the Land League chiefs was in the
saddle, when the country, in spite of them,
was beset with so much excitement, was
so full of the love of the land, that the
people would shortly have become
conscience confessed, and his power
trump his popularity is revived, his
the future absolutely ensured by
importance, and the people, in the
cases are very generally made here, are not
a little unreasonable. I have discussed the
with the very many persons, from land-
lords of the highest rank downwards, and
the Government, and the Government
of the League. The general belief seems to be
of the English public opinion had at last roused
Ministry. Another prevalent opinion is
that the Gladstone reaction, to which
will be large numbers forcibly deterred
in going into the Courts. The notion that
Premier was actuated by feelings of
grain entertained personally towards Mr.
Russell, arising out of a supposed defeat in
the House, is entirely unfounded. The
of bringing about some disturbance, a
excuse for giving the populace a severe
punishment, is entertained by hardly any persons
in this consideration.

the change in the
policy of the Cabinet—for it is a change
would seem to be the following:—So long
the League upheld Griffith's Valuation—
other words, from twenty-five to thirty per
cent. off in rental—to be a measure of
the Government, the Government
in allowing it full play and development.
It was, and still is, believed that the

The Government, for their part, will not parley with the League. The law is everywhere, and the Government will not attempt to resist its execution will be promptly suppressed. If the tenants, many of whom have the arrears in their pockets, will not pay their rent, they will have to go out; and a trial of strength will be the result. Any person openly inciting to the practice of "Boycotting" or to the withholding of rent will be imprisoned; and it is hoped that the agrarian madness may be finally tamed. In the meantime, however, the life of an obnoxious agent or landlord will be exposed to the rage of those violent and unscrupulous persons who are ready to follow the leaders, and against the will and conscience of their fellows, are yet sure of an asylum in every cottage even after the foulest murders.

It may be suggested that the landlords and tenants should obtain peace by a compromise by way of loan from the Court, under the 19th Section. But I am assured on all hands that tenants will not agree to join in the application, and still less their participation in the same will be made known. The Commissioners have been surprised at the

and defeat." Mr. Dillon was paid on Wednesday to Mr. John Dillon, Mr. P. Mr. Brennan, Mr. W. O'Brien, and Mr. Boyton. Mr. Dillon is provided with a comfortable room, having a good fire. Mr. Brennan is suffering slightly from cold, but his health is otherwise good. Mr. Boyton is still rather delicate. Mr. W. O'Brien appears in vigorous health and high spirits. In this gentleman's case the operation of the press is not so much a matter of duty as of any part of his duties as editor and conductor of the *United Ireland*. The 31st Regiment, under Colonel Swettenham, left Dover by special train on the 2nd inst. for the Continent, and on the following morning, en route for Buttaveau, Ireland. A large crowd assembled at the station to witness their departure. General Newdegate and his staff being among those who were present to see them off. On the 3rd of March. The same morning a company of Marine Artillerymen, under Lieut. Tatham, left Portsmouth to join the *Penelope* for service in Ireland. The Portsmouth division of the Royal Artillery is in a somewhat weaker condition, in consequence of large drafts having been sent to Ireland, but

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN EGYPT.

a counter move to the despatch of the mission. And the Sultan recalled the mission in order to get rid of the naval demonstration, in the absence of which the mission would have been impossible; it seems as if of Turkish mission and the foreign ships had both been sent to prevent further disturbances in Egypt, and as if both were recalled simply because the danger of further disturbances has been averted. The question which arises is whether the Muslim circles in Istanbul, and the coalition in general, expressed that the British Government has committed a great mistake. The present action of France in Northern Africa is raising against her the determined hostility of the Arabs, and is exciting throughout the whole of the Mohammedan world the fiercest fanaticisms which will be indefinitely increased by the forthcoming attack on the Holy City of Kairwan. If England, it is said, cannot protect the Mussulman interest she should, at least, carefully abstain from all contact with the French aggressive action; but, instead of so doing, she has been engaged in the demolition of the Turkish Empire and the extension of her influence on the North African coast. The Tunisian and Egyptian Questions may be quite independent of each other, but the uneducated Mussulman cannot be expected to understand such fine distinctions, and will naturally believe that England is abetting France in her aggression against Islam. It is not without harm, it is added, could the mission do if the Sultan wished to produce disturbances in Egypt? It is not by public missions that he would act, for he could attain his ends far more efficiently by the numerous secret agents at his disposal.

SOUTH AFRICA.

IN THE SOUTH.

The strong point of a South Italian summer is its fruits. And here you take off your hat. The fruit is delicious, cheap, plentiful. You can really live on grapes and bread. The peasants grow them on your system—and be as well fed as Lucullus. All the same, it is not *fruit de luxe*, like its aristocratic brethren at home. The ordinary peaches of the market are not like those of the well-known Italian peach wall in Kent; they melt like sugared cream in your mouth; nor are hotel grapes like the hot-house grapes you wot of. In England care and cultivation do all, and compel Nature as a bond-slave; here Nature does everything, and the peasant has no cultivation nothing. The trees bear, the sun ripens, man gathers—*ecco tutto!* The result is abundance, sweet, refreshing, and nobly democratic, but less perfect than would be were the fruit of the English peach orchard. You get seven or eight peaches for a few pence; about a third of what you would pay for ones in England. But frankly, it is quantity against quality. So with the grapes, and the other leading fruits. The choicest in the market. But the great glossy green-skinned, red-fleshed, water-melons, with their big black headlike seeds, of which the saying goes that with one slice, eaten from end to end, and not cut, is enough to fill a man's stomach, are as cool as are cool as so much snow; the fragrant melons proper; apricots, figs of all seasons, green and purple, but ever, when perfect, with those three marks "the tear of a

As the season advances, the vintage begins, and when you have accustomed yourself to the myriads of flies which come in with the vintage, you will be able to claim the melody of the song of the *cicala* in one tree and the grape-gatherers in another, you may enjoy the rest. It is as well not to see the treading of the grapes, and to throw as this year's vintage is so much more than the last possible. About this time, too, it is wise to look out for nocturnal beasts. Half spiders, with thick black legs, are not pleasant bedfellows; nor are lively young scorpions to be desired as guests under your pillow, where they will be sure to bite you. But you might object to centipedes crawling on the counterpane; and there is a certain poisonous lizard, with an unpleasant look, which comes out in the cool of the evening and prowls about the garden. But these annoyances and stars make up for a good deal of this kind of thing, and the moon has a species of intoxication in it which must be felt to be understood. This absence of flowers is one of the worst of the heat of the day. But, as the Italians say, you cannot have both flowers and fruits, and they prefer the latter. With the break of the excessive heats after the first rains, the earth puts on a new spring and fresh flowers and fruits appear. But then the great discomfort is as if it had never been. Heat, dust, languor, smells, darkness, the six weeks of intolerable glare, when "the light lay heavy on flower and tree," pass from the memory, and the sun is more in the shade. Then leave off dreaming of Scotland, of the Engadine, of the Atlantic, of Mont Blanc. You have now the pull over your less fortunate friends, and you understand how it is that Italy has always been a country of emigrants. But you are in a country in Europe. She is once more your Venus, and you, though happy as Adonis, are her not unwilling lover.—*Truth.*

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Viscount Helmsley, M.P., and the Hon. James Duncombe intend taking a trip to the West Indies during the winter months for the benefit of their health. Lord Helmsley has derived much benefit from his visit to Duncombe Park, where he has been able occa-

Wallace have left Manchester-square for their seat in Ireland.

THE PRIME MINISTER

ANOTHER GALE.

A Dundee correspondent, writing on Thursday, says: "The gale which broke out last night continues to rage with unabated accompaniment by torrents of rain. Vessels in the Firths of Forth and Tay are unable to get out owing to the tempestuous sea. The captain of a vessel which arrived in the Tay last night reported that he had seen a schooner foundered off the coast of the Orkneys, and that she was drowned, as no assistance could be rendered. Large quantities of wreck have come ashore, and further disasters are feared." A message from South Shields says: "The weather off the coast of the Tyne is very strong and running. While the gale blows from the Stangvar, bound from Christiansand to Blyth with pig props, was entering Shields Harbour for refuge, she ran ashore to the southward of Fish Pier at South Shields. The crew were killed or left off. It is feared that the vessel will become a wreck. A cable agent at Queenstown telegraphed on Thursday morning: "A hard gale from the south-east, with heavy rain, blew all night, and continues, but the wind has shifted more southerly. It is reported that a vessel of the name *Champion*, a quarter of a mile off outside Rothes Point, apparently all hands lost. The broken spars of a sunken vessel are visible above water off Rothes Point."

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A Great Britain.

LONDON, OCTOBER 22—23, 1881.

THE WEEKLY PRESS ON IRELAND.

The *Spectator* says:—The Government suppresses the Land League as a society hostile to the law, and by implication promises to punish all who continue to belong to it, or who may help to carry it out. It is, however, a society which has always been an illegal body or not wholly below the question. We ourselves, while thoroughly sympathising with the professed object of the League—namely, fixity of tenure—and advocating "the three F's" as historically just in Ireland, have always believed, from the day that the League refused to put down terrorism, that it was an illegal association, liable to be prosecuted for a conspiracy to incite resistance to the law. In tolerating this association for so many months as an expression of popular feeling the Ministry were probably wise. If Mr. Parnell were to pay their debts, and Irishmen refused to pay their debts, Mr. Parnell must warn them that such a refusal was illegal and criminal, and must be punished. And if we understand his theories of government at all, his threat to punish would be much more than a phrase. The law must be upheld, he says, and he will be the lawgiver who they may. We cannot but feel keenly how active Ireland's malefactor must be, when the Land Act begins and the Land League ends on the same day, and the Government is compelled to pour sweet water and bitter out of the same pitcher.

The *Saturday Review* says:—It was high time for the Government to abandon the idle pretence of treating the Land League as a lawful association. It may well be expedient to relax the restrictions which have been imposed on the use of their arms by the police. Their courage and fidelity are beyond all praise; but it may not be safe to trust to their endurance in equal contests too far. Humanity would perhaps incline to give armed mobs a sharp and early lesson, before riots expand by reason of impunity into insurrection. By this time even the Birmingham section of the Government must have learned that if force is no remedy, lawless force becomes irresistible. A great many deaths and a vast amount of misery have been caused by deference to the paradoxical opinions of Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain. There is no reason to fear that the Ministers will be guilty of undue severity or excessive vigour; yet some critics, long familiar with Liberal complacencies, may be allowed to cherish historical doubts whether the stern suppression of rebellious movements by the Governments of former generations was not more expedient and more merciful to all concerned than the tardy justice now administered to Ireland.

The *Statist* remarks:—Even Mr. Gladstone, we should think, must now be satisfied that his policy of coercion is a failure. He has been led on from one step to another till he has established a state of things unparalleled in the history of any nation, and which only serves to provoke a more irreconcilable attitude. There is an issue involved in the struggle graver far than the success or failure of the Land Act, or even than the fate of the Gladstone Cabinet. It is its effect upon the conciliation of Ireland. Coercion by Mr. Gladstone, it must never be forgotten, is much more serious than coercion by Lord Beaconsfield. If the strike against rent is really carried out, the Government will be driven to still harsher measures, until Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright will find themselves called upon to defend acts which even Castlereagh would be troubled to justify in Parliament. From whatever point of view we look at the coercion policy of the Government, we see cause to regret it. But it is the natural outcome of the system of government we maintain in Ireland. That system was unsuited to the altered situation. Through it to administer Ireland as an equal and integral part of the United Kingdom is impossible.

The *Economist* observes:—"In the steps which have so far been taken the Government have shown a sound discretion, and certainly have not erred on the side of excessive severity. The League has become an organisation whose cardinal principle is repudiation, and it will have to contend against the resolute hostility of the Church. But the chief obstacle to its success is to be found in the temper and the necessities of the people themselves. Worn out with agitation and unrest, and having at last obtained from Parliament the protection against insecurity which has been the unsatisfied aim of every agrarian movement in Ireland for nearly a century and a half, they are asked to forfeit in the moment of victory all the fruits of the struggle, and to engage in a fresh campaign in which they have nothing to gain and everything to lose. It is difficult to believe that they would commit themselves to such a desperate and senseless enterprise.

The *Tablet* says:—Why could not Mr. Dillon be made amenable in the criminal court? There would be no need of the parade of a State trial, and we apprehend that, if the use of the language imputed was brought home to him, a conviction would easily be had. Similarly in all the other cases. At present a number of gentlemen whom the majority of the Irish people have adopted for their leaders are lying in gaol, not under any specific charge for which they are to be brought to trial in open court, but on warrants authorising their indefinite detention at the arbitrary

pleasure of the Executive. We can hardly believe that these proceedings will help to produce any permanent good in Ireland. They may impress the public mind with a vague sense of the Imperial power, but they belong to the class of dark surprises and bold strokes, which produce at the moment fear, that rapidly develops into hatred. It is a matter for profound regret that the execution of the Land Act which comes into operation next week is to be inaugurated in such a fashion. Confidence, we have been told, on high authority, is a plant of slow growth. Can it grow at all in an atmosphere choked with suspicion? Sterner repression of actual offences and punishment by the ordinary legal process of language calculated to produce public disturbances might perhaps have been a better policy.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND M. GAMBETTA.

A correspondent writes from abroad:—Prince Bismarck's account of the alleged interview between him and M. Gambetta is this: He was near Varzin, and I won't swear that he did not greatly wish to come the whole way; but he confided himself to that. What motive, if not enabling M. Gambetta to satisfy his desire? This is the explanation that has been given to me. A disappointed admirer of the French orator who is admitted to the friendship of the German Imperial family went on his own initiative to Berlin, when M. Gambetta was still in Brussels, to prepare the way for a meeting between him and the Crown Prince and Princess. The Crown Prince had returned home from the Isle of Wight through Normandy on purpose to hear M. Gambetta deliver a speech there. This was taken as a sign that the Crown Prince would be glad to see and hear the personal acquaintance. But nothing could be done unless a visit to the Prince Bismarck, who is morbidly touchy, and notoriously resents any interference with the affairs of his department. At first he encouraged M. Gambetta's friend to advise him (M. Gambetta) to come to Varzin. But when the Prince ascertained that Varzin was only to serve as an antechamber to Babelsburg he changed his mind, and determined to respect the incognito of the illustrious tourist, albeit a very transparent one. The Chancellor took care, however, that the movements of M. Gambetta should be made public. His design was to show that the mountain had submitted to the valley. The rumour was set on foot that an interview had been solicited by the French orator and granted. It was at the same time explained to the French Government that everything that appeared in the journals beyond, and the fact that M. Gambetta had been making a tour in Pomerania, was unfounded. The French orator went to see at Dresden the correspondent of the *Republique Française* "from the banks of the Elbe." This writer is a Swiss professor in the Polytechnic School. His letters for years were aggressively hostile to the Bismarckian policy; their asperity of tone contrasted with the calm doctrinal leaders which were only published in the *Republique Française* before M. Gambetta took the place of M. Chamberlain. Their animosity has been somewhat veiled since the return of the Chamberlain to Paris. But a fellow-feeling with Socialists has been constantly betrayed. It is in the highest degree improbable that, if M. Gambetta had conferred at Varzin with Bismarck about the affairs of Europe, and enjoyed his hospitality, he would have straightway paraded at Dresden friendship with an enemy of the Chancellor. At Frankfurt, which he has often visited, he saw, it appears, a Socialist editor, who is a thorn in the side of Bismarck, and who in 1870 exerted his pen on the side of France. The alleged interview at Varzin has quickened the negotiations between the Italian, German, and Austrian Governments for an interview between King Humbert and the Emperor Francis Joseph. The King of Italy did not like to go to Austria. It now appears that he will continue his journey to Berlin. A short time previous to M. Gambetta's visit to Germany Count de St. Vallier was asked to ascertain how the Prince would take the advent of M. Gambetta to office. He said that he did not care a rush whether France was under a monarch or a president, or whether M. Gambetta upset M. Ferry to take his place, or M. Ferry held his ground against him. But he added that the name of the man who organised the National Defence was a household word in Alsace and Lorraine, and his word in Alsace would be a cause of perturbation there, unless some proofs were given that M. Gambetta had renounced all idea of wresting back the two provinces from Germany which she had taken in 1870. The exact words I do not profess to give. But this is a faithful résumé of the conversation that took place. It may be that Prince Bismarck manoeuvred to get M. Gambetta to commit himself to a policy which would destroy his popularity among Alsacians and Lorrainers, and entangle him with Italy and England. Failing to accomplish this object, he may have declined to meet him when he knew that he was in the neighbourhood of Varzin.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE ARREST OF A WAR STEAMER.—The Board of Trade have placed officers on board of a new turret war vessel, which is lying at Jarrold Slake on the Tyne, as they believe that she is destined for the Chilean Government. She was originally one of the three turret war vessels built for the Chinese Empire. Two of them were manned with Chinese crews, after taking in their armament at Sir William Armstrong and Co.'s Elswick Ordnance Works, and sailed to their destination. It was understood at the time that the vessel was sold by the Chinese Government to Chili, but she lay off Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co.'s Works, at Walker, until a month ago, when her fitting out was completed. She has not any crew, neither has she stores. It is pretty clear that she has not been handed over to the Chilean Government, but it was understood that she was intended for them. The transaction, if it is completed, would probably be between the Chinese Government and Chili, as the former first ordered her.

THE HARVEST IN SCOTLAND.—The *Scotsman* says that the harvest in the Lothians is the worst experienced for many years. The grain generally is seriously damaged by long exposure in the stack. Barley especially is so deteriorated in quality that it is practically unsaleable to malsters. Potato disease is still spreading. The resolution at the East Lothian Agriculturists' meeting to-morrow will ask for a re-evaluation of farms and a Land Bill for Scotland.

THE CRISIS IN IRELAND.

The following reply to Archbishop Crooke's letter from Mr. Egan has been received in Dublin:—

The Most Rev. Dr. Crooke, of whom I speak with the highest respect, in his letter published yesterday falls into two grave errors. Firstly, his lordship conveys that the original platform of the Land League proposed to fix fair rents, while on the contrary it proposed to abolish rents, and get rid of the landlord system. Secondly, his lordship asserts that there is no more reason now to strike against rents than when Davitt, Dillon, and others were arrested; surely there is no comparison between the situations. The Government has now thrown aside all pretences, appealed to brute force, trampled upon all law, and suppressed all freedom of expression. Does his lordship mean to advise the people to surrender at discretion; to tamely submit their necks to the yoke of their taskmasters; to pay rent to the real galeers of their countrymen, whom they have virtually conquered; to surrender the actual control of land to the State? Surely his lordship cannot be serious? His lordship frankly and fairly admits that he speaks as an outsider, never having been a member of the Land League. The Executive of the League have long and carefully considered the expediency of a strike against rents, and believe such a course only a wise and courageous one to meet the present emergency. They rest confident that it will commend itself to the sound judgment and true patriotism of their countrymen. They do not desire to see the country in a state of anarchy, and they do not desire to see a Government secure a sure and speedy triumph for their cause. This is no time for controversy. The crisis is forced upon us. We must meet it, not by compromise, but like courageous soldiers, remembering that the only chance of our movement in "Down with landlordism!"

The *Irish Times* of Saturday morning, remarking upon the state of the country, says:—"So far as our news enables us to speak to-day, it is plain that the country is in a remarkably quiet state. On several occasions when branches of the League were about to meet, the head constable appearing and producing the Lord-Lieutenant's proclamation, the meeting readily dispersed, a spirit being exhibited which was creditable to the members. There is a little question that if the League branches in many places could still have met, and with the special business of discussing the League circular sent forth from Kilmaham and known as the No Rent one, it would have caused very serious consequences. It is a pity that the supporters of the organisation, its unjustifiableness having been admitted by many, and brought out in the clearest light by the timely letter of Archbishop Crooke. In several places the Lord-Lieutenant has prescribed for the followers by a section of the leaders would have been very decided."

Mr. Maurice Flynn, a hardware merchant, residing at Dungarvan, was arrested early on Saturday under the Coercion Act, and taken to the Gaol. The first arrest under the Act which has taken place in the neighbourhood of Dungarvan. The warrant charges Mr. Flynn with intimidation. Henry Brennan, licensed publican, residing in the Clifney Branch of the Land League, in the county of Wick, was also arrested on Saturday, and conveyed under an escort to Galway Gaol. Several fresh arrests were made on Friday, among them being that of a man named Shieley, charged with threatening to shoot police recruits who were leaving Training.

A special meeting of the Dublin Corporation is convened for Tuesday next, on a notice of motion by Mr. Gray, M.P., to confer the honorary freedom of the city upon Mr. Parnell and Mr. Dillon.

The Dublin police discovered on Friday an effigy which is believed to have been intended to represent Mr. Forster. It was seized in a hall in West Wallingford, and was found to be made of straw and paper. The effigy was made owing to private information, it being intended to set fire to the tarred straw representation of the Chief Secretary close to the Castle gates. A jar, containing powder and some tubes of dynamite attached, was on the effigy. The effigy was found by a man named Weir, Ballinacree, county Donegal. There was a fuse fixed to the jar, and this becoming detached prevented an explosion. Mr. Weir is an agriculturist, managing the estate of the Earl of Erne in county Donegal, and was just starting for his home on Friday night. Moloney was in company at the time with a woman named O'Connor.

The Land Commissioners met in Dublin on Friday for a short time and disposed of a few minor applications. Questions were put to the Commissioners as to the construction of the rules, but the judges declined to answer. The Land League solicitor attended, but said he was not yet prepared to proceed with the test case. A telegram from Mr. Patrick Egan from Paris appears in the *Freeman's Journal*, in which he denies that the No Rent doctrine of the League is a new development. It was long ago resolved upon. He says that long before the League was formed, the people were ready to surrender at discretion to tamely submit their necks to the yoke of their taskmasters; to pay rent to the real jailers of their countrymen, whom they have virtually conquered; in fact, to resuscitate the corpse of landlordism. The executive of the League have long and carefully considered the advisability of a strike against rents, and believe such a course the only wise and courageous one to meet the present emergency. They rest confident that it will commend itself to the sound judgment and true patriotism of their countrymen, and they are confident that it will secure a sure and speedy triumph for their cause."

Mr. Parnell has written the following letter to Mr. Gray:—"My dear Gray.—Will you kindly announce in the *Standard* that I have accepted the offer of the Government to receive visitors for one week for nothing?" The Duke of Marlborough, in a statement as to the condition of Ireland, says that the Government made their first great mistake in allowing the Duke to anticipate a great outcry against rent, he did not expect that his prediction on the second reading of the Land Bill of the year against all rent would have been so speedily fulfilled. That cry had now a revolutionary character. Having shown how it should be reduced to Griffith's valuation until the tenants were urged to pay no rent at all, the Duke says that the Land League, had they been permitted to act in a manner highly dangerous to the property of the landlords. That all pointed to the danger incurred in allowing the League to fix its range upon the country. Lord Beaconsfield, in his speech on the second reading of the Land Bill of 1880, fully apprehended the danger—then in its infancy—which threatened Ireland; and no doubt one of the first acts of his Government had it remained in office would have been to renew the Peace Preservation Act. The Duke of Marlborough thus

concludes his statement:—"The existing state of things was beginning to develop itself during the viceregal government, and the late Government invited prosecutions against Davitt, Brennan, Killeen, and Daly, which, had the Conservative Government continued in office, would have been followed up by others. At the eleventh hour, the Government have stepped in, and have begun at last to be sensible of the frightful danger with which the country is threatened. There is no man in the country who would not endorse the steps they are taking to prevent, if possible, a serious outbreak in Ireland; but in all their acts, whenever they have taken any decisive measure, they have always been guided by the consideration that the action of the Government has only been made more difficult, and has allowed the agitation to come to a head when judicious and repressive action, taken sooner, might certainly have put a stop to it. As to the remedies, there can be no further to be desired than is contained in the Act of Parliament lately passed. I do not see that any further step can be done in the country until order has been restored, and I greatly fear that it will be a long time before the people forget the lessons which they have learned. The fact that the Land League has been permitted to hold its meetings with seditious oratory, in every part of Ireland. Until these lessons are forgotten, and the general mind of the country can be brought to a condition of honesty and loyalty, I doubt whether any further remedial legislation. The facts, that the great thing the country wants is a strong, firm, repressive hand, and to be made to feel that a Government exists which will see that law and order is enforced. The country also has a right to expect a period of rest, in order that the conviction should again gain ground that all the laws and safeguards which surround property should be respected, as it is the only chance for capital to once more flow into the country."

Speaking at the opening of the Meath Diocesan Synod, in Dublin, on Friday, Lord Plunket, Bishop of Meath, said there was at present in the country an organized agitation with the object of exciting the peasantry, a class naturally generous, honest, and eager, to repudiate their just debts, obligations hitherto held sacred by every Irishman. He thought it right, in the interests of morality and religion throughout the land, to refer to this subject. When they remembered that the friends of law and order had not given sufficient moral support to those who uphold the law, and that the friends of the law were the friends of the Church of Rome, had given expression to their opinion on the subject, he thought it right to say that he could make nothing of the Roman Catholic Church came forward to support the law, and that the friends of the law and order, should combine together to resist it.

At a meeting of the general committee of the Birmingham Eight Hundred held on Friday night, a resolution was unanimously passed, expressing the necessity which had arisen for severe measures in Ireland, but at the same time expressing unabated confidence in the Government, and reliance "on its power and ability to maintain intact the unity, and to retain unimpaired the interests, of the Empire." Mr. R. W. Dale, in supporting the resolution, said that the Irish leaders were using an agrarian agitation to secure other than political results. There was a wonderful pathetic story in the New Testament of a child possessed of a devil, and when it was cast out the child was convulsed and torn. That was happening in Ireland now; but the beneficent results would be seen in coming times in abiding peace and prosperity.

The executive committee of the Marylebone United Liberal Association, at a meeting held on Thursday evening, under the presidency of Mr. C. H. Hopwood, Q.C., M.P., passed a resolution expressing entire approval of the measures taken by the Government for protecting the law-abiding inhabitants of Ireland from intimidation and outrage, and at the same time expressing the necessity of the Land Act will soon remove the necessity of repressive measures. Similar resolutions have been passed by Liberal organisations at Cambridge, Derby, and other places.

An extraordinary occurrence has just taken place in Limerick. Shortly after ten o'clock on Friday night a cry of murder was heard in Henry-street, close to the junction with Brunswick-street. A number of young men in the Catholic Institute, hearing the cries and moans, rushed out and found a young man lying on an exhausted condition on the ground. He was asked what had happened to him, and he was barely able to mutter that he had been shot. He was then taken into the institute, and further inquiry was made. The sufferer said, "I was not shot by a policeman, but by a civilian who I did not know." He was then taken to the hospital, where he died. The police are now looking for the assassin. The man who was shot was a young man named John Moloney, a native of Limerick, and was a member of the Land League. He was shot while he was walking along the street, and was carrying a bag of money. The police are now looking for the assassin. The man who was shot was a young man named John Moloney, a native of Limerick, and was a member of the Land League. He was shot while he was walking along the street, and was carrying a bag of money. The police are now looking for the assassin.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT LEICESTER.

A serious railway accident occurred on the Midland Railway at Bedford, near Leicester, on Saturday morning. The 9.50 passenger train from Coalville started about the usual time, and was unusually full owing to Saturday being Leicester market-day. Near Deasford, by some blunder upon the part of the pointsman, the train turned into a siding containing a mineral train. A terrible collision ensued. Two carriages were telescoped, and the passengers terribly injured. Three were killed on the spot, and several have legs and arms broken and other frightful injuries, while a large number are seriously injured. A breakdown gang were at once despatched. The wounded are being removed to the infirmary. The wreck of the train presents a terrible spectacle, the carriages being converted into matchwood. The disaster has created great excitement in Leicester. Several of the injured are in a most critical state, and not expected to survive. In a subsequent despatch it is stated that the engine-driver is, it is feared, fatally hurt. Mr. James Page, of Oak Villa, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, a passenger, states that two of the killed are ladies, but nothing can be known positively until some of the wreck has been cleared away. The goods train was full of passengers, and the express approaching, and jumped from his van, thus escaping unhurt.

ECHOES FROM A DISTANCE.

GENOA, Oct. 16.

I left Paris on the 20th of September, taking with me something else besides my luggage, a goodly assortment of Murray's handbooks, and some circular notes. I was bent on a six weeks' work of wandering hither and thither down South: not for pleasure, but strictly on business, in the interests of a journal for which, these many years past, I have been a commercial traveller in most parts of the world. I was in particular anxious to visit the island of Corsica, where I had never been, and to see at Ajaccio the house wherein was born, more than a hundred years ago, a certain Emperor and King.

The something else that I took away with me from Paris I had brought from Belgium. It was a slight cold. I may mention that it had rained during eighteen out of the twenty-one days that I abode in the handsome and cheerful capital for which King Leopold II., seconded by the late Burgomaster Anspach, has done structural wonders. I went down from Paris to Marseilles, a long and uncomfortable journey of some six hundred miles. There was no accident, and I was not smashed en route, as some pessimists might have suggested, but I should surely be; but the windows of the compartment in which I sat would not close properly—the rolling-stock of the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean Railway is in a positively disgraceful state of disrepair—and by the time we reached Marseilles my cold had developed into catarrh.

During two days it was tropically hot in the City of the Canobbieri; but on the third day the *mistral* blew great guns. That abominable *mistral*. It is the *foetus* of the Adriatic and the *navis* of the Gulf of Mexico. The only thing that can be said in favour of this throat-cutting blast is that it departs as suddenly as it comes. On the fourth day it was tropically hot at Marseilles again, and, like the mariners' "from Bristol City," "I went to sea." That is to say, I took passage for Bastia, in Corsica, touching at Nice by the way.

The trip was a beautifully fine one; but a few hours after I had landed it began to rain. You cannot see South's lines, describing how "the waters come down at Lodore." I never learned those lines by heart, and am far from any accessible edition of the late Laureate's poems; but I think that he said something about the cascade at Lodore descending in "dashing, splashing, crashing, smashing, roaring, pouring, rushing, gushing, teeming, screaming, streaming, gleaming, tumbling, rumbling, jumbling manner." At all events, that is how the rain came down at Bastia. And it rained for three months. No rain had fallen for three months. The beds of the mountain torrents were dry, and the cisterns of Bastia were nearly empty. Catarrhs how it rained!

Brachitis and spasmodic asthma came down with me. I was in a great deal of pain at night at Bastia, and gripped me by the throat. So soon as it was morning, and the shops were open, I sent to an apothecary to have a prescription, without which I never travel, made up. It was given to me nearly twenty years ago, by a celebrated English surgeon, and has done me good. I may say scores of times. In the course of an hour the *pharmacia*—he was a Frenchman, mind, not a Corsican, and described himself on his *enseigne* as a *laureat*, and *medic*, and all the rest of it—said to me that he could make nothing of the prescription. It was Chinese to him. These were his literal words.

In despair, I made inquiries for a doctor. They brought me one—a Corsican. This *medico* could make nothing of the prescription, and he said to me that he could make nothing of the Latin in which it was framed, but the handwriting was, according to his contention, illegible. I may remark that I have had it made up with scrupulous exactitude of formula in Paris, in Frankfurt, in Berlin, in Venice, in Rome, in Lyons, in London, in Baltimore, in New Orleans, and in St. Petersburg. The Corsican *medico* gave me a "potion" composed of thirty "grammes" of syrup of belladonna and some vile stuff which he called "strop pectoral," and which made me a great deal worse. I had been before. Then I tried some rough-and-ready palliatives of the "old woman" order: mustard plasters, linseed tea, the inhalation of the fumes of lighted brown paper saturated with saltpetre (by means of which I contrived to burn the carpet of the Hotel de France, but failed to experience any personal relief from the experiment), and so forth. An Italian barber, to whom I confided my woes, obligingly offered to bleed me; but I have a horror of phlebotomy, and declined his friendly proposals.

At length, the dreadful feeling of congestion increasing every half-hour—if you wish to know what that feeling is, try to realise the idea that you are Mark Twain's Celebrated Jumping Frog, and that somehow or other you are to follow a soup-ladleful of number seven shot—I arrived at the conclusion that the sooner I got out of Bastia the better. I was better it would be. It was five in the evening, and the diligence was just starting for Ajaccio, and there was a place vacant in the coupé; and, as fortunately, I discovered in the remotest recesses of my travelling bag a tin box of Keating's Cough Lozenges. I had laid in a stock of half a dozen boxes at de la Paix, before leaving Paris; but I had overlooked this particular box, and thought that my supply of Keatings was exhausted. That beneficent box! Mitridates, they say, fed on poisons until they became antidotes. I fed on Keatings nearly throughout a nineteen-day journey, and found that they were a most efficacious remedy. I was for taking the first steamer to Marseilles, and returning home at once; but the skilful and humane physician into whose hands I had been so fortunate as to fall, said, "No." He told me that I had still enough brachitis and asthma about me to last me three weeks longer; that a sudden change of climate would probably bring about a relapse, and that if I had a relapse I should possibly die. "Go to Italy," he concluded, "as quickly as you can, and get well. You will find me as tender as though I had been a child, and so stoutly refused to accept any kind of fee or honorarium, that I was compelled, with the friendly connivance of the landlord of the hotel, to resort to a hope not unworthy of subterfuge, in order to let the learned Professor of Zurich, know that I was not ungrateful for the kindness which he had shown to an entire stranger."

I am positively delighted at having been privileged to make the acquaintance of, perhaps, the most enchanting "winter city" that I have ever visited. I know the majority of the "winter cities"—the Cities of Refuge for the unfortunate who suffer from pulmonary or from bronchitic affections pretty well. But do not talk to me, if you please, about Nice, Cannes, or Montpelier; about Mentone, San Remo, or Bordighera; about Madeira, or about St. Augustine in Florida, U.S.A. Cease to laud the balmy climate of Seville and Malaga; withhold your praises from the oranges and bananas of Havana; moderate your transports touching Algiers, and be even reticent as to the curative virtues of Ventnor and St. Leonards. From my fidelity to Brighton I will never swerve.

It was to me the place *par excellence* to get well and to keep well in; but, after Brighton, give me Ajaccio. I look upon that charming little town of fifteen thousand inhabitants as the Queen of the Mediterranean. It was as warm there last week as it should be warm in Devonshire in July. The sun shone continuously during my stay, and even when I was at my worst the doctor insisted that the window should be partially opened. The air is the most fragrant that I have ever breathed. After sunset comes a deliciously soft and cool breeze—like the "frio" of the Valley of Mexico. The Bay of Ajaccio is as beautiful as the Bay of Naples. The drives and promenades are numerous and picturesque. The markets teem with fruit and vegetables of every conceivable kind. You may have—read this, ye Americans!—your corn-cobs, your "succotash," and your "egg plant" for breakfast. You revel in tomatoes. It is a land of figs and grapes, and luscious pears, and sweet lemons. There is a deliciously clean, airy, and comfortable hotel called "La Germania," conducted on the well-known "Pension Service" principle; and which, when the season commences—it lasts from the middle of October till the end of March—will be full of foreign guests. For the benefit of the steadily increasing English colony, an exemplary English lady has built a church at Ajaccio—G. A. SALA in the *Illustrated London News*.

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COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

BALMORAL, FRIDAY.

Yesterday afternoon the Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Churchill, due to Abercrombie Main, visited the Dowager Duchess of Roxburgh. The Right Hon. Sir W. Vernon Harcourt had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal Family. Colonel Sir J. Carstairs McNeill has arrived as Equerry in Waiting. Colonel Maude has left the Castle.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Clarke, returned to Marlborough House on Friday afternoon from visiting the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Eastwell Park.

The Earl of Carnarvon has disposed of the lease of his house in Bruton-street to Mr. Henry Oppenheim. Lord Aveland has arrived at Normanton Park, Rutland, from Scotland. Lady Aveland and family have joined his lordship from town.

Lord Napier of Magdala, who has been on leave in England for some time, leaves on Wednesday next for Gibraltar to take up his duty as Governor-General.

Lady Clifford has taken her departure from the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood. Upwards of 500 invitations have been issued for the ball to be given at Longleaf House, Wilts, the seat of the Marquis of Bath, on December 9, on the occasion of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Wilts. Their Royal Highnesses are expected to arrive on the 6th, when Westminster will be gay with bunting and other decorations.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. DILLON.

The following correspondence has taken place between the Prime Minister and a Welsh country gentleman, Mr. Jones, J.P., of Llanerchrugog and Eglwysilan.

"Sir,—I trust I may be permitted, as a Welsh Liberal who has often voted in the interests of your great party in more than one county and in London, to beg your attention for a moment to a question upon which many earnest Liberals, who abhor sedition, and even more especially inhumanity, feel very strongly. You are just reported as having reiterated and emphatically expressed 'respect' for and done 'honour' to Mr. John Dillon, the Land Leaguer. Not many months ago a wretch of that name was reported as having publicly incited his ignorant and brutal fellow-countrymen to the systematic mutilation of cattle; which, though explained to us as being an interesting and historical Irish habit, is regarded by Englishmen, Welshmen, and Scotsmen as one of the basest and vilest of dastardly outrages. It suggested to an audience, who hailed the suggestion with laughter and cheers, that certain landlords' cattle would not thrive; and this suggestion was followed (as it had been preceded) by numerous outrages (some indescribably horrible) of the kind. This was distinctly imputed to the man whom you are reported to respect and honour. I should be glad to hear, however late, that neither he nor any other Dillon ever used in Ireland—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant, 'T. JONES.'"

"10, Downing-street, Whitehall, Oct. 17, 1881."

"Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 10th, I am created by Mr. Gladstone to say that you have apparently been misled, as Mr. Dillon himself seems to have been, into the belief that Mr. Gladstone praised him generally, which is as far as possible from being the truth. Mr. Gladstone admires his energy, and has praised his resolution to abstain from impeding the operation of the Land Act, a resolution which he seems now to have greatly marred—I am, sir, your obedient servant, 'T. JONES, Esq.' 'J. A. GODLEY.'"

DR. SIEMENS ON ELECTRICAL INVENTIONS.

Dr. Siemens, in his opening address as president of the Midland Institute at Birmingham on Thursday evening, took for his subject "Science and Industry." Having stated at some length his views upon what he considered to be the best method of technical education, he went on to discuss the necessity of being prepared for constant changes and new processes in the progress of science; and to those who still had some confidence in the stability of things as they existed in arts and manufactures he strongly recommended a visit to the International Exhibition of Electricity in Paris. In connection with the subject of electricity, Dr. Siemens gave some interesting biographical recollections. He said:—"That form of energy known as the electric current was nothing more than the philosopher's delight forty years ago. Its first practical application may be traced to this good town of Birmingham, where Mr. George Elkington, utilizing the discoveries of Davy, Faraday, and Jacob, had established a practical process of electro-plating in 1812. It affords me great satisfaction to be able to state that I had something to do with that first practical application of electricity; for in March of the following year, 1813, I presented myself before Mr. Elkington with an improvement on his processes which he adopted, and in so doing gave me my first start in practical life."

"CUCKOO" NOTES.

Mr. Gladstone—the pressure and excitement of the Land Act over—is anxious to retire from the leadership of the party. His references to this at Leeds were studied, as have had weight in the proper quarter. But the situation is a delicate one—Lord Salisbury will not again assume the nominal leadership, and if Mr. Gladstone remains in the House of Commons past experience has taught a lesson that will not be forgotten. The Premier, however, is unwilling to contemplate the retirement from political life, and there are objections—limited, personal, and political—to his transference to another place that are insuperable. The dilemma is a singular one, and it is highly probable that its solution will be found what, in sporting phrase, is called a "wager game."

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LONDON, OCTOBER 25-26, 1881.

The Convention between the British Government and the Boers was ratified on Tuesday by the Volksraad. This welcome intelligence will be received with no little satisfaction. We are all of us glad to be quit at last of an unhappy quarrel in which we have suffered much mortification. When the Volksraad at first seemed disposed to resist the terms agreed upon by the Boer Triumvirate it was necessary to show that the limits of concession had been reached, and that the Government, rightly interpreting the views of the country, would not hesitate to enforce the acceptance of the Convention in all essential respects. This firm attitude has produced its effect, and the Boers have wisely chosen the better and more prudent course. That they should have done so with much reluctance is, perhaps, only what was to be expected. The Convention is distasteful to them in many respects, and the more ardent spirits among them may easily have persuaded themselves that a Government which had yielded so far would be likely to yield still more to sufficient resistance. But the Boers, in this expectation they were disappointed. The terms of the Convention were settled with much deliberation.

them reproduced by Orleansists and by Conservative Republicans like M. Thiers and M. Dufaure. Its Mexican adventure is repeated in a Tunis expedition, more than suspected to be a financial war got up by speculators on the Bourse. It was accused of encouraging immorality, but it is under the Republic that M. Zola, the apostle of a disgusting realism, has risen to fame, while all observers attest that French periodicals and shop windows never revelled in indecency so grossly as at the present time. We thus fail to see that austerity of virtue which was promised us under a popular régime, and "the vices of the Empire" seem to flourish more vigorously than ever, without even the decency of a Republican mask. Then the meanest aristocracy of Napoleon III—the vilest of the vilest—this aristocracy is now reproduced by the people of Marseilles. The château which they claim is the private property of the Empress as much as her jewels or her robes, and we hope that the French tribunals will have the independence to recognise her rights, as they did in the case of the Château and Museum of Pierrefonds.—*Daily Telegraph*.

The President of the United States has communicated to the Senate, in reply to a request to make known the steps taken to protect American rights respecting the projected Panama Canal, a letter sent to Mr. Lowell last June. The document is of extreme importance. It states the claims of the United States in a pronounced and emphatic way, and shows that hitherto there have not been generally understood here :—

When M. de Lesseps went to the United States last year and laid before the American people his enticing scheme for cutting the isthmus, we heard much of the Monroe doctrine, and with great emphasis we were urged to send about that time to Congress a message, in which he stated that any canal made through the territory of Colombia must be subject to the control of the United States. These views were repeated in a similar manner, and with great emphasis, by Mr. Blaine's letters. As far back as 1846 a treaty was concluded between the United States and the Republic of Colombia, by which the perfect neutrality of the isthmus was guaranteed, and the Government of Colombia was to terminate the treaty, and to obtain from the European Powers a joint guarantee of neutrality of the isthmus and the sovereignty of the State. Speaking in the name of the Executive of the United States, Mr. de Lesseps said that the United States could not do this, and that the treaty of 1846 is sufficient. An assurance is given that the Government of the United States will not interfere with commercial enterprise on the part of foreigners; but the former must retain the complete political control of the isthmus, and any channel through America in the use of any interoceanic canal through the isthmus will be readily admitted. But the Secretary of State pushes his point too far when he would have the world make it for granted that no Government except the United States could be consulted in regard to the neutrality of the work. The proposition is far from self-evident, and it is unfortunately not supported in the letter by arguments which will make it acceptable to European Powers, least of all to England. The English Government, after made by Mr. Lowell of the views of his Government as to a matter which has almost ceased to be purely a matter of abstract politics will command attention. But he has not expressed his English Government's regard to see any great difference between the position of Nicaragua and Panama, and at a loss to conceive what injury American interests could suffer from the existence of a general compact to secure the neutrality of the whole world, should be placed outside the region of warfare.—Times.

Owing to unforeseen difficulties which have arisen, it is understood to be very doubtful whether Sir Garnet Wolseley will be able to accept the appointment of General of the Army when Sir Charles Elliot retires; and in view of General Wolseley's probable retention of the Quartermaster Generalship, Major General Sir Frederick Roberts, C.B., is understood to be likely to take up the command of the Madras Army, to which he was lately appointed.

The salary of the newly-appointed British Resident in the Transvaal has been fixed at £10,000 per annum, and the remuneration of the British Consul-General in the same territory in lieu thereof. The selection of an official to fill the appointment rested, we understand, between Mr. G. Hudson, the successful candidate, Judge Koetze, Major-General Clarke, C.M.G., R.A., and Major T. Clarke.

A strange scene would be presented if the Empress Eugénie appeared in person to answer the citation of the Marseilles municipality, and, uplifting her widow's veil, confronted her enemies in court. The crowd which once were one of the greatest in Europe, now stamped with the heroism's crown of France, the remembrance of happier days than the present, might appeal to any man who was left of the chivalry of France. Marseilles, however, is not a place where human life is greatly respected, and it would be rash to say that the grief-stricken lady would be safe from the fierce roughs of the southern city. During the war they refused to recognise the tricolour, the red flag was raised on the municipal buildings, and since then order as more than a dream of the population. Violence has been so rampant that the Government also remember that libels on the Bonapartes have been circulated by a million all over France. In the days of the Empire they had a foul

Sir William V. Harcourt made his first public appearance in Glasgow on the occasion of his being presented with the freedom of the city on Tuesday afternoon, 10th inst. Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Lady Harcourt, is the guest of Mr. Charles Tennant, M.P., was, during the day, occupied with official business, and did not leave the residence of his host until shortly before one o'clock, when he proceeded to the Council Chamber, and dined with the Lord Provost (the Hon. John Ure), the magistrates, and councillors. Sir Wm. Harcourt, after luncheon, drove to the City Hall, where he was presented with the freedom of the city. The Lord Provost presided. The "Burgess ticket," which was contained in a casket of beautiful workmanship, was presented by the Lord Provost in eloquent terms. The following is a copy of the document, "read in the presence of the city," October, 1881, and within the Council Chambers of the said city, the Lord Provost, magistrates, and council of the said Royal burgh of Glasgow have, in council assembled, resolved, that Sir William V. Harcourt, M.P., and his wife, be admitted as honorary councillors confer the freedom of the city on the Right Hon. Sir William V. Harcourt, M.P., one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, in recognition of his eminent services to the country, and in testimony of his Home Secretary.—Extracted by me, J. D. MARWICK, Town Clerk."

In acknowledging the presentation the Home Secretary's speech was of local rather than general interest. In the evening he addressed the Glasgow University students, the Glasgow Glasgow Liberal Association in the St. Andrew's Hall.

Sir Wm. Harcourt, who was received with loud and prolonged cheering, the audience rising and waving hats and handkerchiefs, said:—“Fellow countrymen, the auspices of the Glasgow Liberal Association, which has invited me to this evening's gathering, is an invitation to be present to-night I felt it was a summons I could not decline. In my opinion politicians who are called upon to take a practical part in the conduct of affairs do well to invigorate the spirit, it may be said, by the use of the vernacular. I shall therefore have immediate contact with great assemblies of their fellow-countrymen like that which I see now collected before me. (Cheers.) It is a good thing to introduce a popular figure into the Government, and to bring it into the hands of the people. I shall continue to use the vernacular (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I do not come here to-night as the apologist of the Government. In the first place, because I believe, and I hope you believe, that the Government have done well to continue the policy of the late Government, and, secondly, because if it did I am not aware that I have any special aptitude for that duty. (Cheers.) The policy of the Government has been recently expounded and explained by Mr. Gladstone, and I have heard of those eloquence and genius leaves little to those who come after him to glean. Mr.

Gladstone has traversed the whole field of politics, and the national mind still teems with those thoughts that breathe and words that burn which first lifted the heart of Yorkshire as they carried the lightning of storm. I think that every man who was present at the Guildhall, in an audience not particularly partial to Liberal politics—(laughter)—must have been struck by the eloquence of the statesman who presides over the councils of the Queen. (Cheers.) I remember it is not above two years ago we were told that there was nothing so unparliamentary as to attack Government in my opinion, a man of my mental calibre cannot be so attracted to one that does not deserve to exist. That is the right that we claimed against the Government of Lord Beaconsfield, and it was a right and duty which we each of us performed accordingly. I am now a little older, and I was deeply convinced that the policy of the Government was a policy which led to nothing but dishonour and disaster. I never doubted myself, even when the popularity of

on Tuesday night in defence of the Irish

policy of the Government, contended that the Government had acted neither too soon nor too late. They had to guard against the natural impatience felt at what was felt to be the unreasonableness of the Irish; but they considered it was 'not fair to expect that the bitter memories of suffering and wrong which linger still in thousands of Irish cabins can be at once and entirely effaced by the tardiness of the Government in the past few years.' Until very recently, moreover, the greatest of all Irish grievances remained practically untouched. If the Compensation for Disturbance Bill had been passed he did not doubt that they would have taken from Mr. Parnell's hands the strongest, the most powerful influence in the country, even wider than the House of Lords rejected the bill, and Mr. Parnell was able to convince his fellow-countrymen that they must look to agitation in order to secure attention for their grievances. Mr. Chamberlain could not, however, altogether deny that agitation had followed English precedent; if its leaders had carried it on within the spirit as well as within the letter of the law: if they had discountenanced violence and intimidation, then there was no agitation in the sense in which he was speaking of using sympathy and more entitled to complete success. But, unfortunately, they did not do that. If they did not countenance, at all events they permitted acts of outrage, a system of secret terrorism whereby the Government could not be expected to endure. It would demoralize any people among whom it was permitted to exist. The avowed objects of the League—the reform of unjust laws—were approved by the Government which had pledged to animals, arson, and outrage—these are not, in the opinion of any Liberal Ministry, permissible instruments for political ends." The Government accordingly applied to Parliament for further powers and he was not surprised to find that the Government would be sufficient. He had been invited in an article which appeared in the *Standard* that morning to frankly admit that they made a mistake. "Frankly," said Mr. Chamber-

lain, I decline the offer of the two-thirds vote. I am not sure that I am not mistaken, and if we had to do it again I would do the same. Between the time when the Government suppressed it two great and important events have happened. First, the League had changed its objects and its character, and secondly, the Land Act has been passed. The leaders of the Land League agitation had other objects in their minds than the avowed object of the League; but so long as they pursued their avowed object, they were in the right. They attempted to find out the nature and to remove the great grievance, but the secret object was to inflame the grievance, not to remove it. It was to use it as a basis for securing some other end. As Mr. Chamberlain said, conciliation was an Mr. end—'Unless the Government and the country are prepared to accept the idea of the secession of Ireland from the United Kingdom, the only alternative of the two countries—(cries of Never)—I think that the time had come when the Government was bound to assert its authority. Are we ready to consider the Union itself as a standing grievance? And are we prepared to consider the separation of the Union as an open one between us? For myself I am not prepared to admit that it is possible, either in the interests of this country or in the interests of Ireland, that there should be created a hostile frontier between two sister States. I think, therefore, I suppose that the first result would be that independence would be the signal for

civil war, in which we should be forced to take a side; but if this were avoided Ireland independent must always be jealous and afraid of England. The greater Power, the commercial supremacy of the great country, would be the subject of anxiety and alarm to the smaller. Ireland would be crushed under the weight of military and naval expenditure, which it would have to maintain in order to secure its separate existence. We should find our business and our property in the hands of other countries would be a standing menace the one to the other. Sooner or later the condition would be intolerable, and we should have to commence the struggle anew. Ireland would again have to be reconquered, or England would be reconquered, and we should have these contingencies, and therefore I say, liberal and Radical as I profess myself to be,—(great cheering)—I say to Ireland what the Liberals, or the Republicans, of the North said to the Southern States of America, "What we have to present to you is this:—With these limits there is nothing which you may not ask and hope to obtain—equal laws, equal justice, equal opportunities, equal prosperity." These shall be freely accorded to you, and your rights shall be preserved. With these prejudices shall be by us respected, your interests shall be our interests; but nature and your position have forged indissoluble links which cannot be sundered without being fraught with consequences of misery and ruin to both countries. We must, therefore, we will use all the resources of the Empire to keep intact. (Great cheering, the audience rising.)

STATE OF IRELAND.

THE LAND COMMISSION COURT.

As was briefly announced by telegraph an important meeting of the Dublin Corporation was held on Tuesday afternoon, at which a motion, moved by Mr. E. D. Gray, M.P., was discussed, to confer the freedom of the city upon Messrs. Parnell and Dillon, now in Kilmainham Gaol. An extraordinary amount of interest was manifested in the matter, and the Council Chamber was crowded during the day, the greatest anxiety being manifested to gain admission. The galleries were filled principally by sympathisers with the Land League, who frequently cheered or whistled at the name of the speaker, Mr. Gray, in proposing his motion, spoke at great length. He said he intended the honour proposed to be conferred upon Messrs. Parnell and Dillon as a recognition of their public services. He admitted that the motion was condematory of the Government, and of the policy of their imprisoning Mr. Parnell and others. He felt that every honest man believed Mr. Parnell and Mr. Dillon in gaol not because of their connection with the Land League, but because the one had completely worsted Mr. Gladstone, and the other had completely outwitted his opponents with scorn. Mr. Gray denounced the policy, and said the Land Act was due to the Land League. He condemned also Mr. Forster, who, he said, never lost an opportunity of voting for coercion. This was the first time that Mr. Gray had ever expressed his condemnation of the action of the Government. Mr. Gray, in concluding, appealed to the Corporation not to record a vote of which they would be ashamed. If this motion were not passed, it would be a disgrace to the Corporation, of which he was a member, and a disgrace to the Irish all over the world. (Great cheering.)—Mr. Brooks, M.P., condemned Mr. Gray's propo-

sition as being a censure of the Government and an approval of the Land League policy. He believed that policy to be pregnant with

RATIFIED.

The *Times* has received the following telegrams from its correspondent at Durban:

DURBAN, TUESDAY.

A correspondent who has just arrived here from Pretoria says that the Boers do not wish to fight; and, indeed, there are not in a position to do so. Food supplies are very scarce in the Transvaal. Military stores and material are, therefore, being pushed on to the border by Sir Evelyn Wood. Two thousand of our troops are at Standerton, where Colonel Bellairs has shifted his camp to a site of the former Boer camp—a more commanding position. It is believed here that the British Ministry will insist on the ratification of the Convention by November 3, or country will be reoccupied. It is evident that there are two parties among the Boers— young and warlike and the old and peaceable.

(FROM THE "WORLD.")

The Queen never forgets her old servants. During one of her drives over the hills from Windsor to Doncaster recently, her Majesty was recalled to the parents of the man Philip, who died at Windsor in June, and placed a wreath of flowers on his grave in the old kitchen garden.

Every one in Portsmouth is glad to hear that at last the new Government House is within a "measurable distance" of completion; and equal satisfaction is expressed to find that there is now every prospect of its being occupied by the present monarch and his people.

Prince George, that the building was so conveniently laid out as a residence; but that the outer world the site selected for it is not chosen, and one that is much exposed to gales of wind, from whatever quarter the storm may come.

Mr. Charles Gavan Duffy is not a young man. He was a leader in Irish politics nearly forty years ago. But it is quite true that the ex-Premier of Victoria is about to make to himself a wife, and that the bride will be a cousin of his—Miss Hall, of Liverpool.

It is a happy omen for the young couple that the bridegroom is "young and prosperous!" I have heard of a bridegroom of eighty who lived to be a grandfather.

Large numbers of gentlemen have now returned to their shooting quarters in Scotland, and others are preparing to follow. The result of the season is, on the whole, satisfactory, and the Earl of Stamford and Warrington has had excellent sport in the Abernethy and Glenmore deer-forests. The Earl is a keen sportsman, and a large number of fine stags have fallen to his rifle. At Glenleslie, Mr. Charles Mordaunt, Lord Brook, and paid gamekeepers have been successful in securing a stag and party at Rothiemurauch secured one of the finest stags, the average weight of which was 15st. 2lb. Mr. Fowler of Berwickshire killed altogether sixty. Mr. Clay, Glidmore, finished the season with thirty-nine, and Mr. Hargreaves, at Glenzie and Gairn

Mr. Du Maurier, in the last number of *Punch*, has hit upon a lucky vein of novelty in an illustration which he might easily develop into a Christmas book of prettiness. By doing so, he has done what Kenoza, who drew the black silhouette version of the *Illustrated* *Christmas* *Illustration*, did not do. He has taken *Night's Dream*, and by turning the artist's "Brilliant Idea" into white silhouette against a black background, has made a capital black and white exhibition.

This luminous paint, with which the Browne painted themselves all over in this *Punch* drawing, is a new make, not blue devil, but pale-mauve demoniac. He took a cottage last week for ten minutes at the "Luminous Cottage" at the Crystal Palace, and in five minutes it was like the black hole in *New York* *Lat* *Post* and the remainder of his short tenancy there was a drawing-room of the mauve mansion was a blurred twilight, as of veiled moonlight.

It is a new paint, pale mauve, ground glass, and it is the innovation or discovery being made by the apparently except in the case of the London apparently-painted life-belt for the sea, at a wreck, or night immersion. In such a

[illegible]

We have, it is pleasing to say, seen the West, on English racecourses, of the horse he was riding, Lord Clive, as Sir George Chetwode has sold him to go to France—now, as a horse for racing papers. Lord Clive was a hard-mouthed, a long-legged, a speedy could ride, and throughout his career no fortune has attended his owners. In promising yearling, he was entered in all the races, and his combination became so successful in consequence of his speed, that he was a brother to Warren Hastings, while he was it half-brother. This appeared a serious mishap, when, after the Duke of St. Alban's Mr. Higgins had conjointly given 3,000 guineas for him, and placed upon record his performance that would have secured him to have been the first favourite for the Derby. Always beaten when backed, or winning when unbacked, his career on English racecourses was limited to a fitting close at Sandown, where odds were offered for him at thousands and he fell; and he leaves his country for his country's good.

A STRANGE STORY.—When the small boy caught crawling through the hedge into the orchard, he was taken by the police to the place where he was going to, he replied that he "was going back again." That is an explanation of apparently suspicious circumstances which in point of simplicity has the advantage over the story narrated by Thomas Arkington Breckinridge to the Maryland county magistrate. Sir Atkins had been in the kitchen of Sir Philip Lingden's house under circumstances that certainly justified a demand for explanation. It was half-past four in the morning, too early for an ordinary morning call. Moreover, instead of ringing at the door, he had opened the door, he had got in by the kitchen skylight. He was seen when he was found in his possession a dark lantern, a "jenny," a screwdriver, a chisel, a gimlet, a pair of pliers, a glazier's diamond, two knives, some pieces of wire, three keys, and a box of matches. The prisoner did not deny the possession of this collection of miscellaneous but suggestive articles. But he urged they had no relevancy to the matter in hand. A carpenter had, he said, been told that he could not go through one of the

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Great Britain. LONDON, OCTOBER 29—30, 1881.

M. GAMBETTA'S POSITION.

For the moment M. Gambetta appears to be once more leaning towards moderate counsels. His speech and his silence during his recent visit to Normandy have alike pointed in this direction. He has for the most part kept clear of politics, and, on the one occasion when he did allow himself to touch on them, it was merely to utter the reassuring commonplace that, as the Republic belongs to the nation and not to a party, it is wide enough to embrace every Frenchman. Generalities of this kind have seldom been found to hamper their authors when it has proved convenient to disregard them. A man must show himself a Frenchman before he can establish the title to be enrolled in these maternal arms, and the possession of sound political opinions may easily be made a part of the Republican conception of nationality. The foes who belong to a man's own household may fairly share the largest share of his hatred. That M. Gambetta has not lost sight of the advantages associated with the pursuit of a conciliatory policy may be fully admitted. But his realisation of these advantages has not governed his action in the past, and there is not much ground to suppose that it will exert any more effectual influence upon his action in the future. In form, indeed, it may still be an open question whether he is going to ally himself with the Moderate or the Extreme section of the Republicans. But, in fact, it seems to be no longer of much importance what the party with which he happens to associate himself happens to be called. The faculty of offering an effectual resistance to the continually growing demands of the extreme Radicals is, to all appearance, denied to French Republican politicians. The utmost they can bring themselves to say is that the time has not yet come for doing this or that, and this dilatory plea usually serves as an invitation to the Radicals to show that the time has come sooner than the Government expected. The only difference that is likely to be visible between a Gambetta Cabinet in which the Moderate Left has the predominance and a Gambetta Cabinet in which the Advanced Left has the predominance is that in the one case the Extreme party will dictate what the Cabinet is to do, while in the other case an Extreme Cabinet will do what it dictates to itself.—*Saturday Review.*

The Spectator says: M. Gambetta may well hesitate, for he does hesitate, to accept power, for he will inherit a position as embarrassing as any which ever fell to a statesman's lot. There appears to be no limit to the invasion of Tunis. It has become a war waged on the great scale under most difficult circumstances, with everything to be lost by defeat, and nothing to be gained by success, except a new and intolerable burden on the French military reservoir of strength. The expedition has nearly isolated France abroad, and M. Gambetta will take up the helm without seeing anywhere an ally. Nothing short of a direct menace to Egypt would now alienate the British people from the French. But the *entente cordiale* is far weaker than it was when the expedition to Tunis commenced, and is now a certain suspicion whencesseur appears to approach a crisis. The Government of Spain—a country which always preoccupied French politicians—feels itself distinctly injured by the failure to defend its subjects in Oran, and by the projects for an invasion of Morocco. And finally, Italy, which might have been so firm a friend to the Republic, has been compelled by the Tunis expedition to throw herself into the arms of the Austro-German alliance. M. Gambetta will take up the reins to find France isolated and ringed in with doubtful, suspicious, or semi-hostile Governments.

THE OCCUPATION OF KAIRWAN.

The Times doubts whether, in the present condition of parties in France, the advantage of the unopposed occupation of Kairwan, such as it is, will not be reaped by the successors of the present Ministry rather than by M. Ferry and his colleagues. In any case, the Ministry will have to bear the odium of much disappointment, and will bequeath a heavy task to its successors.

It is possible, of course, that the occupation of Kairwan will strike terror into the insurgents, and thereby weaken their powers of mischief and resistance for the future; but it is at least equally possible that the continuation of the sacred city by the presence of armed infidels may set their fanaticism aflame, and arouse, not merely the Arab tribes, but every Muslim in Tunis against the power of the Frank. The present Ministry will doubtless make as much capital as it can out of the occupation of Kairwan in the forthcoming debates in the Chamber, but it will find it very difficult to convince an assembly not too favourably disposed to it, either that its policy in Tunis was wisely conceived at the outset, or that it has been executed with efficiency and vigour. The Ministry of M. Ferry will have other and in some respects graver charges to meet than those which arise out of the merely domestic aspect of the policy pursued in Tunis. The pursuit of the occupation of Kairwan has left France alluring phantoms in Tunis, and has left France more or less isolated in Europe. It has more or less isolated Italy on the side of the Central European Powers, and it has chilled, at least for the moment, the friendly regard of England.

KING HUMBERT'S VISIT TO VIENNA.

The Saturday Review has no doubt that the primary object of King Humbert's visit to Vienna is to give a reply on the part of Italy to the Tunis expedition. Not that there are any signs of immediate hostility between France and Italy. On the contrary, the Italian Treaty of Commerce which the French Government had postponed with an appearance of lukewarmness greater even than it has manifested towards the English treaty, seems now on the point of being really concluded.

Both Governments, too, have a solid tie of friendship in the enmity with which the Papacy equally regards them. The Tunis expedition itself has had the wholesale effect of increasing the ties of friendship between the French people for war, and Italy has at this moment every reason for desiring peace which a delicate financial situation can suggest. It is the future, and probably a not very near future, that Italy is considering. The royal visit to Vienna is very much like the erection of one of the new forts on the Italian side of the Alps. It is a strengthening of the defensive position of Italy. War with Italy would be one thing, and war with Italy, backed by Austria, even if Germany kept aloof, would be another and a very different thing. It would be a war in which no French statesman, not even M. Ollivier or M. Saint-Hilaire, could enter with a light heart. The Austrian alliance, like a new fort, only in a much greater degree, makes a French war more difficult, and therefore more improbable.

THE TRANSVAAL.

The Saturday Review believes that although the Volksraad has sanctioned the convention, the Boers are not likely after the evacuation of their country to observe its terms with minute fidelity. There can be little doubt that the least acceptable part of the convention is that which provides for the protection of the native population.

It may possibly be desirable to reconsider the terms of the English protectorate over the natives. During the short period of annexation, the natives, having technically become English subjects, may perhaps have established a certain claim on the Imperial Government, and it is not impossible that some arrangement with respect to the natives may be made by friendly negotiation. The English Government is bound to secure the rights and property of those who adhered to their allegiance during the recent troubles, and especially of the English residents. The Boers have nothing to gain by persecuting their political opponents, and their possible desire of revenge deserves no favourable consideration. In their contention as to the debt they are in the wrong; but in such cases the debtor who is unwilling to pay has a great advantage over a rightful claimant.

THE PROPOSED LAND BILL FOR ENGLAND.

It seems to be acknowledged by Conservatives as well as Liberals, says the Economist, that legislation of some kind is needed to put the relation of landlord and tenant in England upon a more satisfactory footing, and we may reasonably expect that before another year has passed compensation for unexhausted improvements will have been rendered compulsory by Act of Parliament.

A large section of the farmers, however, are not satisfied with this solution of the problem, and they have put forward, through the Farmers' Alliance, a scheme which goes a great deal further, and the effect of which would be to substitute for our present agricultural constitution a system which can only be fairly described as one of dual ownership. It deprives the landlord, without compensation, of some of the most valuable incidents of his estate. To begin with, he will no longer be at liberty to choose who shall be his tenants. The only way in which he will be able to resume possession of his land, and dispose of it as he pleases, will be by the exercise of his right of pre-emption, and if the suggested measure of compensation is adopted he may be mulcted for such a display of free-will in a heavy fine. Subject to this expensive privilege, he will be bound either to keep on his old tenant, or to accept any person who is willing to pay for the tenant-right, and who is a Court, on which the landlord is not represented, deems solvent and unobjectionable. But further, the landlord will no longer have any effective voice in determining the manner in which his farms shall be cultivated. Secondly, the measure of compensation adopted in the proposed Bill not only confers upon the tenant a right to which he is neither expressly nor impliedly entitled by his contract, but it effect transfers to him an interest in the soil itself. Lastly, to submit the relation of landlord and tenant, with all its incidents, to the supervision of a public tribunal would be in every way a retrograde step. An examination of the functions with which the proposed Court is to be invested will show that, upon every change of tenants, the terms of the new contract will be moulded according to its discretion. Agriculture would unquestionably be benefited if the occupier were given the security which he at present lacks for the legitimate fruits of his capital. It would be still further benefited if the present rate of owners were released from the fetters of their settlements, and the acquisition of ownership were made easier and more simple. These are changes in the law which violate no economic principle, and which are in complete harmony with the natural tendencies of our agrarian system. But the scheme of the Farmers' Alliance, with its degradation of the landlord, its divided proprietorship, and its judge-made contracts, is a reactionary attempt to revert to a totally different and much more backward type.

THE OCCUPATION OF THE "HOLY CITY" BY THE FRENCH TROOPS.

The Times correspondent with General Etienne's column, telegraphing from Kairwan on the 26th of October, says:—Kairwan surrendered to-day without a blow being struck. When we were within two miles of the town Colonel Moulin, escorted by some cavalry and his staff, galloped on, and in a few minutes came within easy firing distance. Flanking parties of cavalry were sent out on each side of the town, and I went on with one of them. We rode right up to the walls, and immediately afterwards the inhabitants hoisted the white flag on the tower of the Great Mosque. The staff then advanced to within speaking distance of the walls, and in a few minutes we were met by the Governor and his staff. The former declared that he voluntarily surrendered the town. The order to advance was then given. Just one hour after the advance guard had reached the walls, the troops began to defile into the city. Each battalion was headed by its trumpeter playing a fanfare. All the columns passed through the town and then came out by a gate on the op-

posite side. We are now encamped under the walls. The 48th Regiment only is stationed in the citadel. The soldiers have been strictly forbidden to enter the town. This has caused much disappointment and a good deal of openly expressed grumbling. The men are very fatigued, and the weather has been exceedingly hot and the dust almost insupportable. All the country round Kairwan is a dried-up marsh. The Zaghouan column is reported to be within a few miles' march of us, but the Besseba column will not arrive for two days at least. The natives look sick and dejected, and I have never seen one smile since we have been here. The French have confirmed the Tunisian Colonel Marabet in his appointment as Governor of Kairwan. The insurgents occupy the mountains near the city. They have not been subdued, and the French are not likely to get at the whole business. The arrangements of General Etienne and Colonel Moulin are excellent, and our supply of water is amply sufficient. It is rumoured that an expedition in Southern Tunis will be necessary.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

DISCOVERY OF DYNAMITE.—LETTER FROM MR. PARNELL.

An extraordinary discovery of a large quantity of dynamite, with fuses and caps, was made by the officers of the 9th Northern Infantry at the Drogheda Station on Friday evening. It appears that a passenger, of respectable appearance was observed by a fellow-passenger, who travelled from Dublin to Malahide by the down express train, to be handling a parcel from which the ends of cartridges were seen protruding, and on the arrival of the train at Malahide the guard's attention was called to the fact that combustibles were being carried in the train. The guard's possession of the parcel, which he was handing to a man who was waiting at the station, was observed by the police, and on the arrival of the train at Malahide the guard's attention was called to the fact that combustibles were being carried in the train. The guard's possession of the parcel, which he was handing to a man who was waiting at the station, was observed by the police, and on the arrival of the train at Malahide the guard's attention was called to the fact that combustibles were being carried in the train.

MR. PARNELL'S SPEECH.

Mr. Parnell, M.P., has addressed the following letter to the Freeman's Journal:—Dear Sir,—I have noticed that a proposition has been made in some parts of the country to form a "Tenants' Defence Association," with a view of replacing the original League of the Irish National Land League, and I take this, probably the last, opportunity I shall have of putting our friends throughout Ireland in possession of the reason why we are all strongly opposed to the formation of such associations. Freedom of speech and the right of association are guaranteed by the Government, and the proposed associations would only be tolerated by Mr. Gladstone so long as they appear disposed to carry out his views and policy; and so far as they appear likely to attempt to undo the work which the Irish Land League have done during the last two years. It is the purest childishness to say that it is only the name of the League which has been proclaimed. It is its spirit and its principles which have been really aimed at; and no other organisation could have so completely succeeded in its aim, unless it promises to be of a reactionary and Whiggish nature, willing to assist the Government in their attempt to repress and mislead and demoralise the Irish tenant farmers. Michael Davitt opposed me when, two years since, I suggested that the Land League, a defence association should be added to that of the Land League; and I have lived to recall the wisdom of his judgment. We call, therefore, upon our friends who are true to the principles of Davitt and the Land League to discountenance the formation of these mongrel associations, and have nothing whatever to do with them. Permit me to express, in conclusion, the unanimous feeling of every man in this goal that they are willing to remain here for any number of months or years that may be necessary.—Yours faithfully, CHAS. S. PARNELL.

THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL.

that he felt himself compelled to omit portions of the letter, in view of the recent proclamation of the Government.

It is stated that the Government intend giving a pecuniary reward to the members of the Irish Land League who have been arrested, and who have endured the admirable work they have accomplished during the past twelve months. The Dublin Gazette contains a notice from the Lord Lieutenant offering a reward of £200 for the apprehension of the murderer of Michael Maloney, the farmer who was shot dead while sitting in his own parlour at Rathcloney, Co. Clare, on the night of the 22d October.

Six persons were on Saturday convicted of breaking glass in Mr. Fitzpatrick's establishment, Sackville-street, during the recent riots. Baron Dowse sentenced them to twelve months' imprisonment each, observing that he had the worst to report of the conduct of the prisoners, and that they were all liable to this sentence. Let men agitate within the limits of the Constitution, but they must obey the law, and not get into street riots. Several fresh arrests of "suspects" have taken place.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

BALMORAL, FRIDAY.—The Queen yesterday morning walked, and afterwards drove, attended by the Hon. Victoria Baillie, to Aberfeldy Mans. The Princess Beatrice rode, attended by Miss Bauer. In the afternoon her Majesty drove with the Princess Beatrice and the Countess of Erroll.

The Weekly Register explains the motive of the Duke of Norfolk's pilgrimage to Lourdes as follows:—The Duke of Norfolk has left town on a fortnight's visit to Arundel, the family physician, Dr. Everard, and a few personal friends, to make a "novena" for the health of the young Earl. The Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol and Lady Mary Hervey have left town for Lichworth Park, Bury St. Edmunds. The Marquis of Northampton arrived at Northampton House, Piccadilly, on Friday morning.

The Lord President of the Council has returned to Althorpe, Northampton, from Balmoral, where his lordship proceeded early in the week for the Privy Council.

Viscount Clifden has left town for Dresden, and purposes to spend several months in Germany.

Lord and Lady Ormskirk have left Weymouth for the Continent, where their youngest son is seriously ill with rheumatic fever.

Lady Huntingtower and the Ladies Tolle-mache are still paying visits in Scotland. The Right Hon. Lord Justice and Lady Bess have arrived at Ennismore-gardens from St. Leonards.

Mr. Gladstone, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Gladstone, drove to Croxteth, the seat of Lord Sefton, on Friday, and thence proceeded to Court Hill, the residence of Mr. Robertson Gladstone, the Premier's nephew.

VICTIMS OF THE LAND LEAGUE.

A meeting to promote the formation of an association for the relief of women in distress through the non-payment of rent was held on Friday at the Palace of the Archbishop of Dublin. There was a very large attendance, particularly of ladies. Among those present were Lady Cowper (attended by Major Byng, assistant private secretary to Lord-Lieutenant), the Vice-Chancellor of Ireland Judge Warren, Viscount Gough, the Recorder of Dublin, the Dean of St. Patrick's, the Captain the Hon. H. Ward, Mr. William Digges La Touche, D.L., the Rev. Dr. Salmon, the Rev. Dr. Doyle, &c. It is most likely the object of the association, which he said was purely charitable, and had no political side or aspect. The non-payment of rent in Ireland had caused the keenest distress to families and individuals depending for their income on the land. The only remedy which had been determined to form this association, which had for its object the relief of widows or unmarried women whose incomes had failed in whole or in part through the cause mentioned. The association would consist of a patron and the Archbishop had kindly granted his patronage, patronesses of whom a considerable number had already been secured, a general committee, and an executive committee. The executive committee would sit in Dublin, and their duty would be to examine into applications for assistance. That would be a very important duty, as no doubt a large number of claims would be sent in. Aid would be given to those who were found to be in distress, or loans would be advanced, repayable without interest, as many persons would not accept of charitable relief. An undertaking would be required that persons benefited should intimate the repayment of rent, so that relief might be stopped. This would be only an honorary undertaking, as it was determined that no agreement would be made which might afterwards entail recourse to the law. The support of the association would not be confined to the public of Ireland, but appeals would also be made for subscriptions in England. The treasurer had already received £300 and £400 had been proposed to purchase needlework from persons in distress, and the committee would also undertake the administration of moneys entrusted to them on special trusts. He then, in order to show the necessity of such an association, proceeded to give several instances of families who were suffering the keenest distress by reason of their incomes not being forthcoming in consequence of the non-payment of rent. He pointed out that the association would in no way interfere with the Government. A motion was passed forming the association, and on the motion of Lord Gough, the following were appointed as the executive committee:—The Vice-Chancellor, Mr. James Wilson, Mr. R. R. Digges La Touche, Mr. T. R. B. Trench, Mr. G. Granby Burke, the Dean of the Chapel Royal, Miss Blanche Tottenham, Mr. W. G. Brooke; with Miss Digges La Touche and Mr. S. F. Adair as honorary treasurers, and Miss Isabel French and Mr. J. Spunner as honorary secretaries.

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.

A Blue-book containing the Agricultural Returns for Great Britain, with abstract returns for the United Kingdom, has just been issued. In Great Britain the area reported to be cultivated in 1881 amounts to 32,212,000 acres, as compared with 32,000,000 acres in 1880, an increase of 212,000 acres in all, which is ascribed for the most part to the enclosure or reclamation of mountain and waste land in different parts of the country. The area under corn crops is 8,848,000 acres only, as compared with 8,875,000 acres in 1880, a decrease of 27,000 acres. The area under green crops is 3,510,000 acres as compared with 3,476,000, an increase of 34,000 acres only. The area under clover and grasses under rotation is 4,342,000 acres, a decrease of 92,000 acres; and the area under arable land is 17,568,000 acres as compared with 17,675,000 in 1880, a decrease of 107,000 acres. The increase in permanent pasture, on the other hand, is 216,000 acres, from 14,427,000 acres in 1880 to 14,643,000 acres in the present year, a movement which is going on without interruption for some years, and which has increased the area under permanent pasture from 12,435,000 acres in 1871 to 14,427,000 acres in 1880, while the arable area has fallen. This is ascribed to the low prices of grain and the pressure of American competition. As regards live stock, the one leading fact to notice is the large decrease in sheep. The total number of cattle is 5,911,642, as compared with 5,912,046 in 1880, showing hardly any change. The number of pigs has increased from 2,000,000 to 2,048,000. The decrease in sheep is about 8 per cent., from 26,619,000 to 24,581,000 or 2,038,000. The decrease, which is pretty equally distributed over England, Wales, and Scotland, is ascribed to the severe winter of last winter, and to a bad lambing season in many districts, and to "liver rot," which not only was widely fatal, but caused farmers to sacrifice their stocks. This decrease has been going on since 1874, when the total was 30,314,000, the reduction from the time to the present being 5,733,000, or about 19 per cent. Horses, on the other hand, show a small increase over last year, and there has been a great increase on this head for a good many years past, which gives some reason for thinking that the breeding of horses is to some extent taking the place of raising other descriptions of live stock. The importation of horses into the United Kingdom from abroad, as well as of other kinds of agricultural produce, continues to go on steadily, although in this case there is no doubt of the continuous increase of the home stock. In 1879 the number of horses imported was 15,246; in 1880, the number was 9,264; and in 1881, to the end of August, the number has been 6,632, as compared with 6,590 in the corresponding period of 1880.

In Ireland there is a decrease of 53,000 acres in the cultivated area, which is no doubt partly due to the difficulty of distinguishing between permanent and mountain pasture. Corn crops have increased altogether 10,000 acres. Green crops have also increased 21,000 acres, but this is found to be almost exclusively due to the large increase of 34,000 acres under potatoes, there being a slight decrease under the heads of turnips, cabbages, and vetches. Clover, sainfoin, and under rotation also show an increase of 89,000 acres. On the other hand, the decrease in permanent pasture amounts to 170,000 acres. There is a diminution of 10,000 acres in the area under flax, and an increase of 6,000 acres under bare fallow. There is a decrease of 10,000 in the number of horses, but an increase of 33,000 in cattle. The decrease in sheep amounts to 303,000, and the increase in pigs is 239,000.

DRINKING HABITS AND BAD DWELLINGS.—A correspondent replies to a letter to the Times to some remarks recently made by Baron Dowse in Dublin with reference to drink and bad dwellings. Baron Dowse expressed his belief that the great crime arose from drunkenness, that drunkenness again arose in a great measure from the fact that the working classes lived in bad dwellings, and the improvement of those dwellings would lessen the desire for drink. The correspondent takes issue with the second part of the argument, saying that the more to do with causing bad dwellings than bad dwellings have with leading to drink. On this point "depends in a great measure the case of those who would find their remedies for drunkenness in anything but legislation. Incest, for example, principle, day-schools and night-schools, thrift, above all things better

dwellings, are to gain some time or other, the victory over drunkenness. But when? Is there any sign that they are doing so now? On the contrary, you will hear it said by some that the habit of drinking is increasing, and especially among young women; and if these are to become dram-drinkers, heaven will have to show the men where they are to find comfortable homes."

THE END OF THE WORLD.—It would probably be an idle task to inquire too closely into the motives which prompt any given case of suicide. The act is, in most instances, an irrational one, and the reasoning, if reasoning there be, which leads to it, is most likely of a very mixed character. Perhaps the most irrational of all suicides is that which is committed to escape death. Such was that of the frogs in Ireland, which, as is well known, "committed suicide, to save themselves from slaughter," when St. Patrick was extirpating the reptiles from that blessed island, from which, calculators say, human competition has ever since excluded them. Of a similar kind was that recommended by the sire of the flock in Cowper's familiar fable. Said he to the frightened sheep around him: "That, life to save, we leap into the pit."

Allied to these instances must be that of the collier's wife in the Vale of Neath, who now lies dangerously wounded by her own hand, having been alarmed by sensational stories that the end of the world is to come next month. The only prophesy which definitely fixes the end of the world in November of this year is, if we remember rightly, an old Italian one, and some echo of this may have reached the woman's ears. All the vaguer prophecies, too, which fixed the year but not the month, and getting driven into a corner as October is on the point of expiring. But what any one could expect to gain by committing suicide late in October, out of fear of the Last Day, to come in November, it is by no means easy to see. It is, however, a fact that immediate terror of the end of the world will lead people to do very strange things. At the time of the Regent's Park explosion, a young man who had sat up all night playing cards, exclaimed to his friend, "It's the Judgment Day; give me my coat, and I'll go and see the end of the world."

hardly reduced to reason by being asked why he could not face his probable fate in his shirt sleeves. Let us hope that the poor woman near Neath may survive to learn that sensational prophecies are things to be despised, and that there can hardly be any doubt that sensational prophecies deserve sound thrashing.—*Evening Standard.*

FEVER DENS.—There exists in many, or perhaps most, parishes in London a vague theory that the Vestries are bound by law to see to the disinfecting of houses in which infectious fevers are known to have prevailed. When the inhabitants are in indigent circumstances, the parochial authorities are expected not only to enforce the purifying of the rooms, but to effect it at the public expense, with a view to preventing the further spread of a dangerous disorder. How far this belief is justified may be inferred from the account of what occurred at Thurston, in a neighbourhood long notorious for the prevalence of fevers, and it was incidentally mentioned to the coroner that in the past six months 19 cases of typhus fever had occurred in the district. Notwithstanding this, and the fact that, as the sanitary officer declared, the Vestry were well aware of the state of things, a woman was allowed to lie for days on the infected bedding upon which her child had just died. A doctor who had been called in after the death occurred stated that it had resulted from typhus fever of the most severe type, adding that this epidemic had undoubtedly been set up by the bad sanitary state of the locality. He had not, however, intended to interfere, as "he believed in the other people," that there were properly constituted authorities. It was only when he found that those authorities were not attending to the matter that he came forward to denounce their conduct before the coroner. The public are deeply indebted to the coroner for having exposed the state of things, which might otherwise have been hushed up in comparative silence. As for the parochial authorities, they attempt, as usual, to shift the blame from one to another. The Sanitary Committee declare that the sanitary officer was in the thick of the matter, and as to the Vestry, and the Vestry profess to make the magistrates responsible. The result of it all is, however, that no punishment or even efficient censure is inflicted upon any one for an abuse and scandal so distressing that it elicited cries of "Shame" even from the coroner's jury.—*Globe.*

SANITARY DEMOLITION.—It is satisfactory to note the progress, slow as it is, of a sanitary reform which has been long pending in the neighbourhood of Lisson-grove is engaging attention. Much difficulty has been encountered in many districts in consequence of the "paying character" of the houses, which has been required to be sold at a low price, and the owners of tenements sublet in single rooms, or small sets of apartments, generally receive a total rental greatly in excess of that which is obtainable from a single tenant. For example, in the course of an inquiry into a notorious case, in the case of a house in Lisson-grove, it was ascertained that the owner or lessor of a house of moderate size, for which £100 a year would have been a high rental, obtained on the average of a series of years between £250 and £300. This may have been a very exceptional case, but it has been an extreme of profit, but it may be fairly taken as a typical instance of the results which accrue from a process of subletting to the poor. In many instances the gains of the landlord are increased by systematic neglect of repairs. In few cases is much attention paid to dilapidations; in scarcely any is a single shilling bestowed on the drainage or ventilation of property of this class. It is easy to understand that any movement inaugurated with a view to demolishing such houses as those to which we refer must encounter serious opposition. It is therefore, we say, satisfactory to find that any great progress is possible.—*The Lancet.*

CELESTIALITY.—The Daily News says:—It will be remembered that Mr. Gladstone, in response to an appeal made to him by eighty-one members of the House of Commons, stated that Sir Hercules Robinson had been instructed to consider whether a much greater amount of personal liberty might not be given to Cetewayo, provided that he would engage not to make use of it to return to Zululand. We now learn that, in consequence of these orders, the Governor of the Cape Colony has given instructions that the ex-King is to have, not in name but in reality, the largest measure of liberty compatible with the prevention of his return to his own country. Sir Hercules Robinson, we are informed, has had two private interviews with Cetewayo, one at Oude Molen, and the other at Government House in Capetown.

ROBBERY ON THE PARIS AND LYONS RAILWAY.—A correspondent writes to the Times under date October 27th:—"A young lady travelling from Paris to Aix by the 8.40 train on Sunday last had her box broken open during the night and £44 in gold abstracted. The thief was evidently not pressed for time and no notice at the stop, as all the contents of the box had been carefully readjusted, and been locked again, the lock being a simple one. A friend's appeal to the Paris authorities only resulted in the usual formulae of taking details, shuffling of shoulders, and handing on to a higher authority, etc. The box and its contents were untouched when handed over to the registration office at Paris, and was taken direct from the Station to an hotel, and entrusted by the porter to a lady's presence. Consolation was offered in the shape of an assurance that

such losses on the Paris and Lyons Railway are common enough."

A SUGGESTION.—In connection with the late gale, a "Seaman" writes to the Times "to suggest that the time has arrived when the information regarding approaching storms, gleaned by the commanders of the Transatlantic steamers should be worked up at our own Meteorological Office, instead of our being left, as at present, dependent on the generosity of the proprietors of the New York Herald. The most destructive of the gales in our history have occurred in the neighbourhood of our island or born in the seas to the westward of us; travelling in an easterly direction, they sometimes pass clear of us, but frequently, especially during the equinoxes, strike against our coasts. The fact of the existence of a gale in the Atlantic can readily be made known to our central office, and in most cases a very fair idea of the path in which it is moving can be determined before it actually arrives."

THE COST OF THE COLONIES.—A Parliamentary return has been issued of the cost of the several colonies of the Empire to the British Exchequer between 1869-70 and 1879-80. The net expenditure during that period for civil and other services was £2,285,310; and for military services, £26,406,189. In 1879-80 the net total for army purposes was £6,413,248, exclusive of £30,646, the amount by which the receipts from Ceylon exceeded the expenditure. The sums allowed for military services during the year mentioned were:—Gibraltar, £38,190; Malta, £291,660; Cyprus, £74,020; Mauritius, £23,001; Bermuda, £182,327; St. Helena, £23,501; Hong Kong, £280,856; South Africa, £4,842,291; Jamaica, £72,760; Bahamas, £7,624; Honduras, £10,512; West Indies, £104,622; Nova Scotia, £147,492; W. Africa, £12,546; Straits Settlements, £18,506; and Western Australia, £11,174.

CHURCHMEN.—The recent census of the worshippers in the churches of the diocese of Liverpool, which showed that the attendance on a given Sunday in 1881 fell far short of the number many years ago, has been pronounced by the bishop of the diocese "very satisfactory to every Christian man." In the last half century hundreds of new buildings for religious worship have been erected in England, and in every town where two ministers might be found in 1831 there are at least four in this year; but in spite of this increase in churches and clergymen the number of church and chapel goers, instead of improving with the times, has considerably fallen back. The bishop consoles himself with the thought that if a census were taken of every town and every city, and of every rural or town parish, the result would not be much more satisfactory than at Liverpool. The argument that if a man's condition is not good it is at least no worse than his neighbour's state has not usually been heard from the lips of ministers of religion; and if it were generally adopted there would not be much hope for amendment. "We mortals or Christian feeling."—*Pail Mail Gazette.*

HARDINGE GIFFARD, M.P., ON FAIR TRADE.—Sir Hardinge Giffard, M.P., speaking at Loughborough on Wednesday evening, said the question of foreign competition was one with which the country would have to reconsider. Their legislation in that direction for the last thirty years he believed to be founded on a delusion. The notion of protecting their productions of the land for the purpose of enhancing the value arising from the great body of the people he would maintain; but, on the other hand, it appeared to him that if they meant to run their industries against untaxed producers they must be the sufferers. If they wanted some aid to pay the taxes upon their own goods, they must not complain if the farmer asked for something to enable him to pay his taxes. He had come to the deliberate conclusion that they could not have the agriculture of this country restored to anything like reasonable prosperity unless they had each others' prosperity in view, and were determined to give fair play in the markets. They could not do that unless they had some alteration of the present state of things. It was one thing to talk of protection pure and simple and another of a certain countervailing the taxes of the country by those who flooded our markets with their own goods. He did not say he was right, but these were the principles he had always maintained, and should be prepared to do so again in the House of Commons.

GENUINE SYMPATHY.—Birmingham is showing sympathy for the imprisoned Land League chiefs in thoroughly practical fashion. They are in gaol; it will go to gaol too, with or without cause. Thus, the other evening, a labourer in a state of intoxication, "advanced" state, no doubt, in order to be in harmony with "advanced ideas" generally—began a policeman to take him into custody for creating a disturbance. At first the constable declined, but on being offered a fee of 2s. for his trouble, he accepted the money and locked the inebriate up. On the same day another policeman saw a man apparently trying to put a woman into the canal. The joker fled as soon as he saw the policeman of the law, and as the object of his kind attentions proved to be in an "advanced" state, she was taken to the police-station. Next day she had not a word to say against the escaped man; he had helped to get her into custody, and that, it appears, was what her gentle soul had been yearning for. Profuse were thanks to the police for their kindness; they had acted as genuine Samaritans, and she would never forget the obligation under which they had placed her. In this case, as in the other, the police acted without punishment, and as that seems to be the rule at Birmingham, perhaps the popular desire for incarceration may be based on a liking for gratis lodging. We prefer, however, to believe that it is the Birmingham method of showing sympathy for the Land League that case we trust the magistrates will condescend to encourage the little habit. It is harmless, at all events.—*Globe.*

THE LAND QUESTION IN CHESHIRE.—The Warrington Guardian says:—The efforts of the tenants on the Mere estate to bring about a reduction in the rents of their farms seems likely to be crowned with success. As a result of several meetings of the tenantry, the trustees of the estate of the late Mr. W. Langford Brooks, of Mere, recently had an interview with the tenants, and several valuers were appointed, one by the